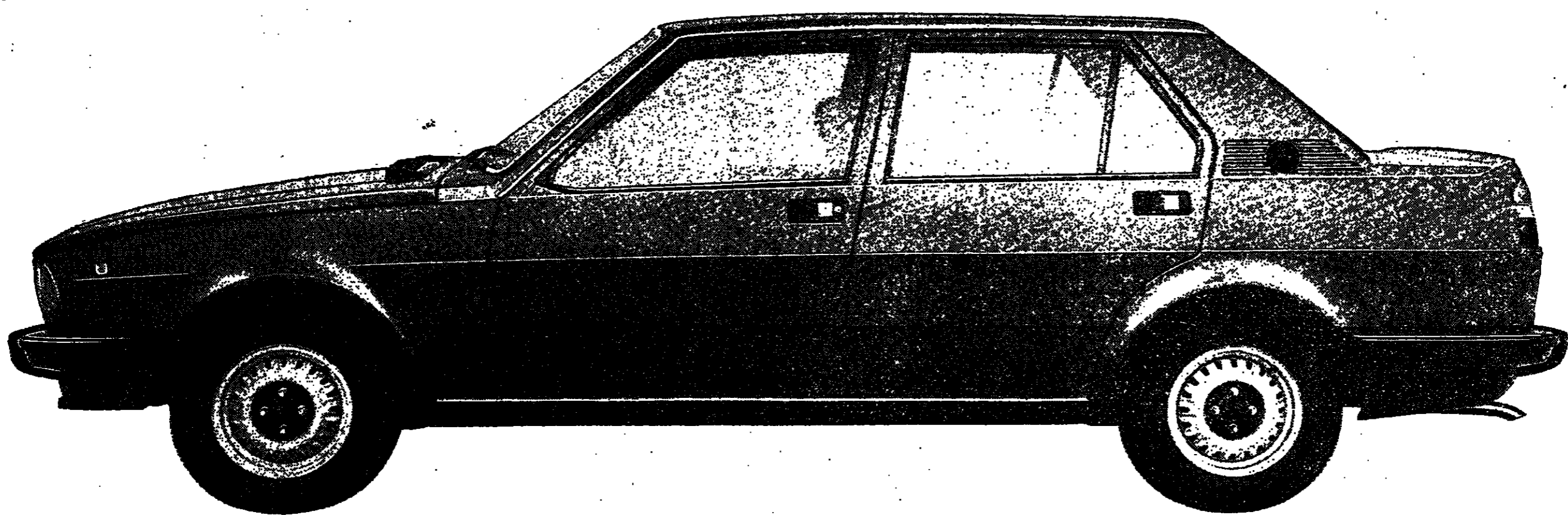


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HOME NEWS

New immigration rules breach Convention, Lord Scarman says

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Certain of the Government's proposed new immigration rules could be said to offend articles of the European Convention on Human Rights, Lord Scarman told members of the Home Affairs Select Committee of the House of Commons yesterday.

One might accept as legitimate, he said, the purpose of the policy was to restrict primary immigration. But the individual effect of the policy if carried out would be that some women settled in the United Kingdom would be less well placed in regard to their family life than others.

That was discrimination and could be said, *prima facie*, to offend Article 14. That article, he said, stated there was to be no discrimination on a whole number of grounds, such as sex, race, colour or religion.

Lord Scarman was giving evidence to the select committee's subcommittee on race relations and immigration. He told MPs he would have thought that the risk that would be run by the Government when it rules came into force was that the ends did not justify those means and those means discriminated against certain women settled in the United Kingdom.

When one saw the nature of the prohibition imposed on certain women in regard to their husbands and their fiancés it was very difficult to explain that, save in the terms of the policy to control primary immigration.

"Then one says, is it necessary to impose those means to that policy? The answer that these courts would be likely to give, to my mind, would be: 'No, it is not'."

Lord Scarman referred to the Government's proposed restrictions to be imposed if parties to the marriage had not met. Why it should be thought that provision added anything to the policy of controlling primary immigration he did not know.

"It seems to me to be an attack on the habits and social customs of people who have come to this country and are living in accord with the customs in which they were brought up."

He described proposals about anti-racism as "a nasty little provision".

Mr Anthony Lester, QC, told the subcommittee that the official estimate was that the effect of the Government's proposals would be to reduce recent levels of immigration by about 3,000 or 4,000 a year.

In his evidence he told MPs: "The Government's proposals will, however, strike at those fundamental principles of our constitution which are supposed to ensure legal equality and freedom under the law."

"If I am right in my views about the incompatibility of these proposals with the rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Convention, then one further effect of these proposals will be a series of international decisions and judgments which will damage the national reputation among the free democracies of the world."

'Larger study needed on black scholars'

By a Staff Reporter

The Commission for Racial Equality said yesterday that newly published research showing that West Indian children do better in school in later years than their English classmates should not be projected on a national scale as the sample used was small.

Mr Ivor Cooke, the commission's information officer, said: "We welcome this research because previously it has been assumed that black children are under-achievers in school, and this shows that to be invalid."

But the research, by Dr Geoffrey Driver, a research fellow at Leeds University, was based on a very small sample, Mr Cooke said. It did not take sufficient account of factors such as teachers' experience, school curriculum, school ethos, the ethnic composition of the local community and whether it was rural or urban.

The commission, which sponsored the study published in this week's *New Society*, was going to publish the research as an important piece of work. "But it is not a complete piece of work and cannot be projected nationally. A larger study needs to be done," Mr Cooke said.

Dr Driver's study was based on the examination results at 16-plus of 2,300 pupils between 1975 and 1978 at five secondary schools: two in the north of England, two in the Midlands, and one in the Home Counties.

He says that it dispels the accepted notion that West Indian children do not do as well at school as they could, and comes up with a new pecking order of achievement: West Indian girls, then English boys, West Indian boys and English girls.

His conclusions were welcomed by teachers' associations yesterday. The 260,000-member National Union of Teachers said the research was the first to have concentrated on the later years at school. "We welcome it because it also helps to correct myths about group performance and stereotypes," Miss Toni Griffiths said.

The same view came from the 90,000-member Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association. Mr Peter Smith, assistant secretary, said: "The research does not surprise me. West Indian parents are only too well aware of the importance of their children succeeding educationally."

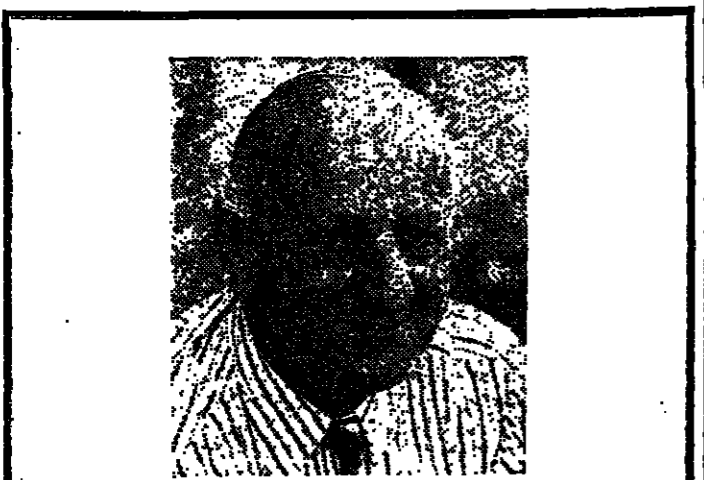
The public had tended to seize on the myth that West Indian children did not do well, he said. "Anything that makes people see the real situation is always welcome."

Steaming back

Five steam locomotives from scrap yards in South Wales and Greece are to be brought and restored at a cost of £190,000 to go back into service on the "Watercress Line" run by railway enthusiasts in Hampshire.

£13m airport plan

The East Midlands Airport Authority will spend £13.3m on airport development between 1980 and 1984, it announced yesterday.



Brian Johnston says "Come down Hetty's Way"

"I would like you to hear about a slice of life you may never have seen. Hetty is typical. She's a 78-year-old widow, with no relatives near at hand. She lives alone. Broadcasts, mine among them, are the only human voices that ever come into her dismal room. For no-one comes to see her, month after month.

"The loneliness gets me down," she says, "the rest... well, I manage. I just long to meet people. My bit of shopping is the only place I ever get to speak to anyone, and you know how busy they all are. It's like being half dead before your time."

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Breakaway Unionist forms new party

From Christopher Thomas Belfast

Deep divisions among Northern Ireland's "loyalist" leaders were sharply emphasized yesterday with the launching of a new Unionist party under the leadership of Mr James Kilfedder, Independent MP for Down, North.

Mr Kilfedder, who resigned from the Official Unionists about a year ago in an acrimonious atmosphere resulting from long-standing differences with the party leadership, launched a strong attack on his former colleagues. He also had harsh words for the Democratic Unionist Party.

His Ulster Progressive Party has started without proper premises and only a tiny membership, but has ambitious plans for fighting the local elections. The cornerstones of its policy are familiar enough: maintenance of the Union; stronger measures against the IRA; restoration of a devolved government and parliament.

It also stands for proportional representation and the introduction of a Bill of Rights. In essence, however, nothing was said yesterday that marked it out as significantly different from the other Unionist groups on the fundamental issues dividing Ulster.

In a reference to the possibility of an independent Ulster, Mr Kilfedder said: "I am ever betrayed by the English politicians and English civil servants and forced out of the United Kingdom. Then, and only in this eventuality, we must be able, confident, one community, to stand alone."

He was critical of the Official Unionists for boycotting the constitutional conference, which had allowed the Rev Ian Paisley to speak as though he represented all Unionists.

The party would fight to create an Ulster identity, so that people would regard themselves as Ulster people rather than as Protestants or Catholics. He was against religious segregation in schools and teacher training colleges. "Let people hang on to their religion, cultural and political differences so long as the intention is to see who can contribute most to the good of the community and its standing in the world."

Divis move: The Government yesterday announced a £7.5m plan to improve the Divis flats complex in Belfast and demolish two of the blocks. One of the most depressed housing complexes in the United Kingdom, the development has a record of violence and vandalism that is probably unique.

The Government's plans envisage construction of new houses in the Lower Falls area, but it is likely to be some years before the first Divis residents move out.

Bath launches £33,000 appeal

The historic Pump Room at Bath is threatened by collapse. The city's special committee is appealing for £33,000. The stability of the building cannot be guaranteed beyond 18 months.

The columns of the south wall of the Pump Room rest on gravel, which is gradually being washed away. That was discovered during recent excavations beneath the King's Bath.

Dowager Lady Brabourne's bequests to grandsons

Doreen Lady Brabourne, who died aged 82 in the terrorist bomb attack on the Mountbatten boat last August, left most of her property to three grandsons. Her will, disclosed yesterday, her will disclosed yesterday. One of them, Nicholas Knatchbull, aged 14, died in the bombing, which also killed his grandfather, Lord Mountbatten of Burma.

Lady Brabourne, who left £50,226 (£53,544 gross), asked that her property, Waddenhall, in the village of Stelling Minnis, Kent, should go equally to Nicholas and his twin brother Timothy Knatchbull, now aged 15, or the survivor. The residue of her property, including some in Jamaica, she left to one of their elder brothers, Michael Knatchbull.

She said in her will that she wanted to put on record that "much as I love to leave everything I have to my beloved son and daughter-in-law, I realize to my regret that it is only common sense in this day and age to do as she did."

She added: "After full consultation with them I am most happy to do so as to provide as far as I can for the coming generations upon whom so much will depend."

Nicholas Knatchbull, who made no will, left £774,986 (£776,212 gross), it was disclosed last week.

Other wills page 16

Life jail sentence on man who named 100 others

George Bradshaw, whose assistance the police said had been "invaluable", was sentenced to a life term for the murder of Alfredo Zomporelli.

Det Chief Supt Robert Wilson said Mr Bradshaw had put himself in extreme danger. Mr Zomporelli was said to have been the victim of a £1,000 revenge murder after he was released from prison.

Mr Bradshaw, aged 37, admitted to being one of two men involved in the shooting of Mr Zomporelli at the Golden Goose amusement arcade, Old Compton Street, Soho, London, in 1974.

Mr Justice Conyn was told that Mr Bradshaw, a former trainee accountant, had confessed to the murder and scores of other crimes, had informed on more than 100 dangerous and violent men, and was now being closely guarded by the police.

He had confessed to robberies and implicated other men in further robberies in which the total haul was more than £750,000 the judge was told.

Mr Richard Du Cann, QC, for the prosecution, said: "The assistance given by the defendant towards solving serious and organized crime can only be described as invaluable."

Mr Bradshaw pleaded guilty to murdering Mr Zomporelli, arson at the Directors' Club, Drummond Street, Camden, between June 8 and 11, 1976; robbing Michael North of £10,000 on January 21, 1976; robbing Edward Rootes of £25,000 on June 9, 1976; and wounding David Knight on August 19, 1974, with intent to cause him grievous bodily harm. He asked for a further 10 offences to be taken into consideration.

Mr Du Cann said Mr Bradshaw was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment for robberies and using a firearm with intent to resist arrest. Counsel added: "It was while he was serving that sentence that he was named as being involved in the crimes of the 100 others."

He provided details of offences of murder, arson, a

Civil defence-3: Britain is lagging badly behind most of the rest of Western Europe Russia believes evacuation is still the best protection

By Peter Evans

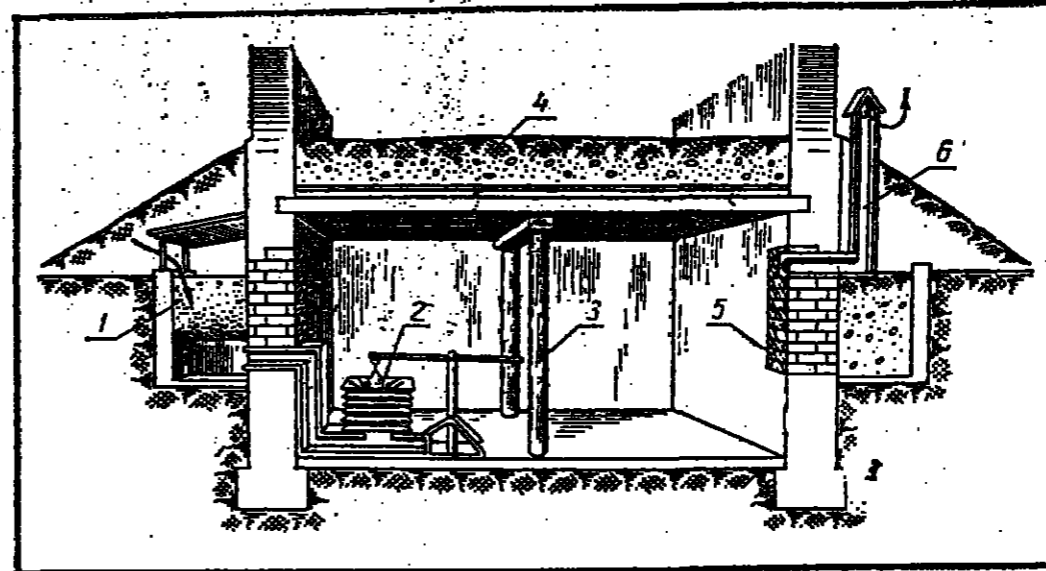
The Russians stopped up building civil defence shelters in the 1970s; but as long ago as the 1950s all plans for new buildings needed the approval of local civil defence authorities, and all industrial or large buildings were required to be equipped with shelters.

The new drive began after the appointment in 1972 of General A. T. Alutun as Russia's chief of civil defence. According to Mr John F. Wallace, former director of plans and analysis for emergency planning in Canada, General Alutun's aim is to provide a shelter for every person, though the general believes evacuation is still the best protection in the event of war.

General Alutun said in the October 1976 issue of *Voprosy Zashchity*, a monthly publication of the Soviet civil defence, that, regardless of increased concern in the West for civil defence, Russia's programme would continue to expand.

One of General Alutun's first tasks was to introduce a programme for securing a "significant proportion" of townspeople on foot in organized columns, using previously planned schedules and routes.

Shelter plans are contained in the massive detailed (337 pages) Russian manual *Civil Defence* and were analysed in the Canadian *Emergency Planning Digest* (Jan/Feb 1978) by Professor Leon Gouvé, director of Soviet studies at the Center for Advanced Studies in National Studies at Miami University.



A Russian nuclear shelter in a cellar: 1, sand filter; 2, bellows for air intake; 3, ceiling support; 4, roof fill; 5, window seal; 6, exhaust box.

He said the scheme includes building extra-hard, multi-storey underground bunkers for government and military command posts and to protect the elite; multi-storey basements or large detached shelters for "production facilities for defence-related industries and for party, government and military headquarters; basement and detached shelters to protect workers in industry, public buildings, schools, and institutes and blast shelters in cities and various types of simple fallout shelters in the country.

Czechoslovakia, for civil defence purposes, is divided

into 10 districts, each with about 140 local organizations. They are linked with the Federation for Cooperation with the Army, Education and Billeting plans are supposed to have been prepared.

In Yugoslavia, the law stipulates that each commune must organize its own civil defence on the principles of self-help. Shelters are provided in new buildings by adapting basements. New shelters are being constructed. Evacuation planning is the responsibility of commune assemblies.

Britain's lack of preparedness contrasts with Mr Wallace's des-

cription in *Emergency Planning Digest* (October/December 1978) of measures elsewhere in Western Europe.

In Sweden, all citizens are liable for civil defence duties. Evacuation plans are backed with large public shelters and other shelters for housing estates, offices and industries. More than 50,000 private shelters for five million people are being increased by 250,000 shelters a year.

In Switzerland, all citizens are obliged to serve either in civil defence or in the military. The mandatory civil defence strength is 420,000, including

those who have completed military training.

The aim of the civil defence programme there is to have a shelter for every citizen and there are enough for more than 75 per cent of the population.

Norway also has a shelter policy. Mr J. Nordhaug, Director General of Civil Defence and Emergency Planning said in 1978 when he was also chairman of the Nato Defence Committee, that Norway had 1,700,000.

In France, *Savoir pour Vivre*, published by the Nationale de la Protection Civile, and reprinted in Britain in *The Journal of the Institute of Civil Defence*, gives advice on shelter building and says details of prefabricated ones made by industry can be obtained on request.

In Finland, at time of threat of war, every citizen aged between 16 and 65 is obliged to take part of civil defence. In peacetime, all municipal and state officials and civil servants have to undergo training.

Herr Peter Menke-Gluckert, Germany's former representative in Nato's senior emergency planning committee, said last April that at least 30 per cent of Germans should be provided with shelter, a target which could be met only by compulsory construction over 10 years.

All civil defence experts on both sides of the Iron Curtain share the view that adequate preparation would save millions of lives in the event of nuclear war; but Britain lags badly behind most of the rest of Western Europe.

Next: No evacuation plans.

Leaders in clash over pension rise

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The disclosure that the latest earnings figures were higher than assumed when the government fixed the last rise in pensions caused angry exchanges between Mr Callaghan, Leader of the Opposition, and the Prime Minister during question time in the Commons yesterday.

Mr Callaghan asked whether Mrs Thatcher would now raise pensions, but Mrs Thatcher responded that pensions had, in fact, risen by more than just the increase in prices.

Mr Callaghan accused the Prime Minister of either misunderstanding, or giving a "damn bad answer". The November pension increase had been based on 17.5 per cent for earnings, plus the 2 per cent shortfall from the previous year which Mrs Thatcher had promised during the election campaign to make good.

Mrs Thatcher: "I am glad for the confirmation that pensions go up by 19.5 per cent this year. Against that, during the time the Labour Party was in power, it left out the three or four months' rapid increase in the cost of living from that calculation."

When the pensions increase was announced shortly after the Conservatives took office, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, said it was based on the expectation that both prices and earnings would rise by 17.5 per cent between November, 1978, and November, 1979.



'Green giant' a bad example, Lord Duncan-Sandys says

By Frances Gibb

The "green giant", the 500 ft high tower block planned for the South Bank of the Thames in London, would be the third of the wedge leading to a "forest of giants", Lord Duncan-Sandys, President of the Civil Trust, said yesterday.

"If we do not call a halt to this proposal now it will set an example for future development of this kind and it will be impossible to restrict end-use buildings of this nature," he said.

"Here we have a building of monstrous proportions, 500 ft high and a terrifying 260 ft wide, in the wrong place, which will not only do very great damage to views along the Thames but will set an example for future developments."

Lord Duncan-Sandys, who was MP for Lambeth for nearly forty years, was addressing a meeting at Westminster Hall chaired by Mr Stuart Holland, Labour MP for Vauxhall, Lambeth, on the proposal by European Ferries, the property and shipping group, for the tower block of flats and offices opposite the Tate Gallery.

He was not against the architectural design of the building, which he considered "rather fine", but its position. He had been responsible for

bringing in the Civic Amenities Act in the late 1960s, which introduced the idea of preserving areas as well as individual buildings.

The building, "fantastically larger than anything else around it", should be considered in context, he said. Planned at a cost of £40m, it is the subject of a public inquiry at Lambeth town hall, continuing next week.

It would have some 370,000 square feet of offices and 100,000 sq ft of flats. It has earned the nickname "green giant" because it is to be made of tinted glass.

Groups opposing it at the meeting included: Heritage in Danger, The Turner Society, The River Thames Society, the Westminster Society and the Friends of Chelsea.

Other opponents include Sir John Benjamin, Mr Richard Lufford, deputy secretary general of the Arts Council, the Royal Society of Arts, the Royal Fine-Arts Commission and Professor Peter Lasko, director of the Courtauld Institute.

Meanwhile MPS from both sides of the House are rallying to oppose the scheme. Mr Holroyd-Paul, who has been a questioner yesterday to Mr Norman St John Stevas, Leader of the Commons, urging members to consider

putting evidence to the public inquiry as "this monstrosity will be visible from the Houses of Parliament."

Mr Holland called the proposal a speculative office development without adequate social or economic justification.

"Either the office space will be let, in which case it will draw office use from other areas at a time when there is a shortage of office space for office workers because of micro and word processors, or it will remain an unfilled white elephant."

Mr Patrick Cormack, Conservative MP for Staffordshire, South-west, who said the building was a "distasteful intrusion" which anyone who loved London should fight, is to reintroduce his "skyline Bill" to protect the views of London.

There is also opposition to the block from the Greater London Council, which says it is too high, and Lambeth Borough Council, which is against "the slab effect" of the building.

It would block sunlight from a large area, and cause shadows about half a mile long at 4 pm, the council says. It would destroy views from other parts of London and be visible from as far away as Kent.

Letters, page 15

No Kelly death inquiry until inquest is held

By a Staff Reporter

The Home Office will make no decision on holding an inquiry into the death of Mr James Kelly while in police custody until the outcome of the inquest is known. Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, has stated in a letter to Sir Harold Wilson.

Mr Kelly, aged 53, a labourer who lived in Sir Harold's constituency of Huyton, Liverpool, died last June shortly after his arrest by Merseyside police.

Mr Whitelaw was replying to an appeal for an inquiry by Merseyside County Council. He pointed out that the inquest was held in public before a jury, when witnesses can be examined by all interested parties, including Mr Kelly's family.

Mr Kelly's case prompted the Home Office to disclose recently that from January, 1970, to June 1979, there were 245 deaths in police custody. Mr Kelly's family have accused Merseyside police of brutality, but the Director of Public Prosecutions decided that no police officers should be prosecuted over the case.

Counties preparing for a battle over green belt

By John Young

Planning Report

County councils in the South-east are preparing to oppose the Government over its refusal to extend the metropolitan green belt around London and its insistence that they zone more land for possible development.

Feeling more rooming particularly high in Berkshire, where the county is convinced of the need to maintain an undeveloped corridor east of Windsor and Maidenhead, not least because of the continuing growth of Heathrow airport and the industries that serve it.

Councillors are also incensed at what they regard as a peremptory and premature demand by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, that they release an extra 1,000 acres for housing in the central region of the county.

That, they say, will make it harder to prevent Reading, Wokingham and Bracknell from coalescing into a single urban sprawl. They maintain that there is already enough land in the county with planning permission for future needs.

Hertfordshire, in its structure plan, proposed that virtually the whole county should be treated as green belt, with a presumption against any further development.

Mr Heseltine, however, has insisted that the statutory green

belt should be confined to within a radius of between 12 and 15 miles from London, although he has sanctioned further restrictions along the "corridor", embracing Stevenage, Hitchin, Letchworth and Baldock.

Surrey County Council's planning committee has expressed concern at the pressures likely to be imposed on rural areas of the county not covered by the green belt. The Department of the Environment has suggested that it should make provision for some 12,000 to 13,000 new homes in the next decade, but the county's planners are troubled about how and where the land is to be allocated.

The Government is clearly anxious to avoid further confrontation with local authorities dominated by members of its own party, with whom it is already at odds on several other issues. But it believes that structure plans are being used to discourage further development in the home counties, with questionable motives.

Mr Heseltine has emphasized that he strongly supports the retention of the green belt, but he opposes its extension to cover white counties like Surrey and Hertfordshire. He regards suggestions that he is "cutting in" to increase statutory protection of the green belt by declaration as gross misrepresentation.

Auction prices rise more than 20% since Christmas

By Geraldine Norman

Sale Room Correspondent

Christie's yesterday held the first sale of the year at their main King's Road premises. Devoted to English furniture, rugs and carpets, the sale totalled £127,670, with 4 per cent unsold.

The auctioneer, Mr Anthony Coleridge, said that prices seemed to be up 20 to 30 per cent since Christmas. "I suppose it may have something to do with the rush for gold and silver," he added.

Most of the purchasers were English dealers, but even at this early season sale there were some Italian buyers, a Spaniard and an Argentine. A Regency mahogany writing table on ring-turned tapering legs, sold for £4,200 (estimate £1,500 to £1,800) to C. Gibbs.

Top prices for topographical works were paid for a set of printed maps, atlases and maps yesterday making £77,000, more than any other sale so far has held, with 2 per cent unsold.

Works of Swiss interest have been much in demand for some time and five volumes (three text and two plates) of Laborde and Zurlauben's *Traité de la Suisse*, of 1780-86, made £12,500 (estimate £4,500) to Hammond.

A manuscript description of Hertfordshire by John Nodden dated 1597 and the deeds of Countess of Warwick, 66 pages in all, sold to Burgess at £6,200 (estimate £1,500).

كزامن التحصيل

HOME NEWS

Nuclear power delay
'would mean loss
of essential energy'By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

An essential source of energy supply would be lost if the development of nuclear power was subjected to continued interruption and undue delay, it is believed by 14 eminent politicians, economists and scientists who are signatories to a report published yesterday.

The document, issued jointly by the Royal Institute of International Affairs, London, and the Rockefeller Foundation, New York, says: "The question is not whether the civil use of nuclear energy entails risks. It does."

"Every stage of the fuel cycle, from uranium mining to waste disposal, carries risks to those who engage in it, and to the community at large."

The report says that the questions to be answered differ from other activities connected with the supply of energy such as mining, transporting and burning coal, carrying liquid gas, establishing large hydro-electric dams or constructing large solar power installations.

For example, are nuclear facilities designed and operated with due regard for the public interest? Do national institutions provide adequate information about nuclear and other risks and the means of containing them?

Can nuclear risks and the risks of providing energy by other means be assessed accurately enough to compare them fairly with each other? How should nuclear risks be weighed against the alternative risks associated with the limits on future energy supply?

Accusations that nuclear power leads necessarily toward authoritarian state control are regarded as difficult allegations to answer. But the authors of the report of the International Consultative Group on Nuclear Energy say that it must be shown in practice that the

central controls needed to protect the public interest can be combined with responsiveness and accountability.

Since uranium, like petroleum, is a finite source, ways of using uranium more efficiently must be developed without delay. That includes making better use of nuclear fuels in existing types of reactors and of demonstrating the longer-term feasibility of fast breeder reactors.

But that depends on striking a "bargain of confidence" over nuclear power that the signatories of this report believe is missing in many of the countries of the industrialized world.

One of the anxieties uppermost, in their view, is the potential proliferation of weapons from the expansion of nuclear power. They believe that can be contained and that the procedures should be made clear for public satisfaction.

Another side to that coin is considered among countries which look to nuclear power as an energy source, but which remain to be convinced that the super powers controlling the technology will guarantee in the long term access to equipment, services and materials.

Waste storage study: Four new areas have been chosen by the Government for study as possible places for underground storage of long-lived nuclear wastes.

There are three areas in England and one in Wales: central and north-west Somerset; south-east Hereford and Worcester; north Gloucestershire; north Leicestershire and south Nottinghamshire; and south Gwynedd and north-west Powys.

It is expected that it will take 10 years to establish the most suitable sites for waste disposal.

Experts "horrified": Experts at the National Centre for Alternative Technology, Machynlleth, mid-Wales, said yesterday that they were "horrified" at suggestions that nuclear waste should be dumped on their doorstep.



The Duke and Duchess of Westminster with their first child, Lady Tamara Katharina Grosvenor, at Eaton Hall, Chester.

Disabled urged to stage street protests against cuts

By Pat Healy

Social Services Correspondent

Disabled people and their supporters were urged yesterday to march in the streets, on Parliament and to 10 Downing Street to fight for the full implementation of the now threatened Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act.

Mr Jack Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent, South, told a conference in London that it was time to mobilize to stop government and local authorities cutting services for disabled people.

The conference was called by disability and poverty bodies who are concerned that the Act will be weakened by the cuts and attempts by the Association of County Councils to persuade the Government to reduce it from a mandatory to a permissive piece of legislation.

Mr Ashley pointed out that despite the lack of enforcement powers there might be a way for disabled people to ensure that they kept their essential services.

Mr Patrick Jenkins, Secretary of State for Social Services, had agreed that it was illegal to withdraw services provided under the Act in the absence of a reduction in need.

"If the charge is increased beyond the means of disabled people to pay for it, then in effect that service has been withdrawn", Mr Ashley said.

Mr John Hamman, Conservative MP for Exeter and secretary of the all-party disability group, said the county council's "retrograde" proposal that the statutory obligations should be dropped was "most disturbing".

The conference adopted a declaration expressing grave concern that "the Act is being undermined both directly and indirectly as national and local government plan and implement financial cutbacks."

Mr Ashley pointed out that

Prisoner sues Home
Office over control unit

By Annabel Ferriman

The Home Office is to be sued in the High Court by a prisoner who is claiming that his detention in a "control unit" at Wakefield prison in 1974 was unlawful.

Mr Michael Williams is alleging that the unit's regime, under which prisoners were kept in solitary confinement for 90 days at a time, was illegal under rule 43 of the Prison Rules, 1964. The rule lays down that a prisoner in solitary confinement must have his position reviewed every month.

Mr Williams is also claiming that his detention in the unit for 180 days was unlawful because he had not been accused of any specified disciplinary offence and had not been given any chance to appeal against his detention.

He is suing for exemplary damages for false imprisonment, claiming that he suffered mental stress, anxiety, fear, unhappiness, damage and loss.

The control units, introduced at Wakefield prison in 1974, were abolished less than a year later after an outcry from civil libertarians, the Howard League for Penal Reform and the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders.

According to a confidential memorandum sent from the Home Office to prison governors which was published in 1975, they were to be used as behaviour modification experiments in which the prisoner would go into a specially designed unit and, isolated from other prisoners, start a regime

in two stages. Each stage would last 90 days.

If at any time the prisoner failed to show the required behavioural changes, he would start again at the beginning of stage one. The Association of Prison Governors asked the May committee on prisons to reestablish the units.

The case of Mr Williams, who is still in prison in Maidstone, is due to be heard on February 22. Yesterday the National Council for Civil Liberties appealed to a judge in Chambers for disclosure of certain Home Office documents.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, is claiming that they are covered by ministerial privilege. The judge's decision was reserved.

Mrs Harriet Harman, the council's legal officer, said: "The case is important because if it succeeds it will establish that prison rules are enforceable by law."

"In the United States and Canada there is now a well established principle that what goes on in prisons is subject to the authority of the courts."

Two other prisoners, Mr Michael McMullen and Mr John Morrison, who were in control units at Wakefield prison, are also suing the Home Office.

A date is expected to be announced soon for the case of the Commission for Racial Equality against the Home Office. The commission wants to conduct a formal investigation into the Home Office immigration procedures and is going to court to establish its right to do so.

Atomic leak
found
by 'psychic'
woman

A housewife who claims to be psychic is being offered the freedom of Hinkley Point nuclear power station in Somerset to test for radiation leaks after impressing engineers with her powers.

Last year Mrs Phyllis White, of Burdham-on-Sea, said there was a radiation leak at the power station near her home months before its discovery was announced. Radioactive waste water leaked on to the beach at the nuclear plant at Easter through cracks in an underground drain. Mrs White discovered the leak with a water divining device.

"My psychic powers told me there was a leak of radioactive water somewhere on the plant", she said. "I was proved right in a few months. When I reported it to the nuclear engineers they invited me to the plant to check the pipes for other faults but I was too afraid of getting an overdose of radiation."

"I did offer to check the pipes of the power station using dowsing techniques at my home, but the engineers refused to cooperate."

Mrs White, aged 48, who did research in high altitude cosmic radiation for six years at Bristol University, said she had detected the leak with a copper ball on the end of a thread.

About a month after I informed the local council and the power station they wrote back confirming there had been a leak of radioactive waste on to the beach."

She is also convinced that radiation has been leaking from the nuclear plant's cooling system since cracks were discovered in September.

The health physicist at Hinkley Point, Mr Philip Carter, confirmed that there had been a leak of low-level waste water from the plant last Easter.

"This water comes from handwashing laundry and cleaning. We are allowed to discharge it into the sea once the radiation level has been monitored by outside independent bodies."

Parents of
dead boys
dischargedFrom Our Correspondent
Hull

The parents of three brothers who died in a fire deliberately started at their home were given conditional discharges by Mr F. Loy, the Hull stipendiary magistrate, yesterday for criminal damage during a Christmas Eve confrontation with neighbours.

Thomas and Edith Hastie, both aged 34, now living at an undisclosed address in Hull, admitted breaking windows and doing £45-£50 of damage.

The court was told that the couple returned to their former neighbourhood in Selby Street, Hull, on Christmas Eve and accused people of causing the deaths of their sons, aged 15, 12, and eight.

Mr Michael Rosenberg, for the defence, said Mr and Mrs Hastie had visited their surviving son, aged nine, who was still in hospital, and Mrs Hastie insisted on confronting their former neighbours. She was upset, he said, and her emotions got out of control.

She still believed that someone living in Selby Street caused the deaths of her children.

She had seven children, of whom she was passionately proud and over-protective. The magistrate said he was taking the exceptional course of a conditional discharge because of the circumstances, but the Hasties would have to pay compensation and fines of £1 each for failing to surrender to their bail for a previous hearing.

Mrs Hastie was also fined a nominal £1 on each of two conditional discharges she was given last August for criminal damage.

Miner killed

Mr Gerald Forbes, aged 19, a miner, of Grange Road, Cannock, was killed by a mine cart in a Hall colliery, Rugeley, Staffordshire, yesterday. The coal board is investigating the accident.

Drug safety testing
'could halt research'By John Roper
Health Services Correspondent

A warning that research to produce new medicines might cease if the trend towards ever more tests before their use was not stopped was given yesterday by Mr David Smart, president of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry.

In spite of the exhaustive testing programmes that were, quite properly, the accepted rule, there could be no such thing as absolute safety in modern medicines, which were highly active and effective compounds, he said.

The time had come to recognize that no additional expenditure of time or money would ever guarantee total freedom from hazard.

Mr Smart, speaking at a London press conference marking the opening of the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the association, said there was a danger that the industry could be forced into a position where it would be impossible to recover the costs of tests which sought to establish the unattainable.

In Britain it could take up to 15 years and about £25m before a new drug could be marketed. As the end when all the data were ready, there could be six months when nothing happened before clinical trials could begin.

In the United States they suffered from the so-called

"therapeutic lag", which meant that many patients were denied new life-saving medicines because approval awaited yet more testing on animals, although the drug had been used on millions of human patients in other countries.

Dr Richard Arnold, director of the association, foresaw an early reappraisal of the burden of safety testing and what was necessary to establish that a new medicine was reasonably safe for its intended use.

He thought the increasing data requirement at clinical testing and the marketing stage might be checked. He hoped there could be even a slight relaxation, especially in clinical trial certificate requirements, without any effective increase in risk for the patient.

Given that easing of requirements, he believed important advances including more highly effective and safe vaccines and antiviral drugs, were in prospect.

Progress of drug therapy in the cancer field was likely to be steady rather than dramatic, with increasing use of combinations of drugs.

Developments were expected in the treatment and prevention of pain, and progress in improving delivery systems so that active drugs went to the exact site where they were needed, in the right concentration and for the appropriate period.

Schoolboy tricked banks

From Our Correspondent
Brighton

A schoolboy aged 15 tricked banks into paying him more than £3,500 for worthless notes, it was alleged at Brighton Juvenile Court yesterday.

Police Sergeant John Ainsley said the boy found a pile of Brazilian bank notes in the attic of his home. At first he used them as "toy money" to play cards with his father. Then he visited banks in Sussex, Surrey and Kent, and exchanged them for pounds.

Unsuspecting cashiers gave him £1 for every 84 Brazilian cruzeiros without checking. The notes were withdrawn from circulation four years ago.

The banks became so concerned as the offences continued that for a time they stopped all dealing in South American currencies.

The boy, who admitted 19 offences of stealing £3,549 and attempting to steal from banks with the worthless notes, was remanded on bail for three weeks for reports.

Court challenge to Hillingdon's policy
on housing of overseas arrivalsBy Our Home Affairs
Correspondent

Two families who arrived at Heathrow Airport and were refused housing accommodation by Hillingdon Council, have taken the council to court in an attempt to have the decisions reversed.

Recently, after an acrimonious exchange with the Commission for Racial Equality, the council decided that the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act does not give rights to accommodation to certain of the arrivals from overseas.

In both cases, which are the first challenges to the council's new policy, applicants sought an injunction in the High Court to compel the council to provide accommodation for them until the hearing of the cases.

One of the applications, in respect of a man, his wife and three children, who arrived from Cyprus, was refused. He disputes the council's contention that the Act does not apply to him.

The day after their arrival, the family were placed in bed and breakfast accommodation by the council at a cost so far of £1,974.

But the council argues that even if the Act did apply to him it would be relieved of obligations because he had accommodation in Cyprus, the council says, and came to this country of his own volition.

The council has told the family that it will keep the bed and breakfast accommodation available for 14 days so as to enable them to find an alternative home.

In the second case, which concerns an Ethiopian widow of a British citizen and her son, an injunction was granted. The council says it does not suggest that homelessness in this case was self-induced. Had the woman not been an overseas arrival with no previous connection with this country, the council would have been obliged to rehouse her.

She and her son were placed in bed and breakfast accommodation on June 5, which has cost £1,500. The council was asked to house her until the Divisional Court hearing, which at that time, court officials assumed would not take place for about nine months, and that would have cost the council about £2,000.

The council says it therefore had no alternative but to decline and invited the applicant to seek an injunction. It is to apply to the Divisional Court next week, requesting an early date for the hearing. Even if the application is granted, the council says, it is unlikely that the hearing will take place before March, costing it a further £500 in accommodation charges.

Meanwhile the council says it is continuing its campaign for changes in legislation to relieve it of the burden caused by Heathrow airport being in the borough. Council officers have made their views known to the Department of the Environment and the Association of Metropolitan Authorities.

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WEST EUROPE

EEC proposal to tax imports of oil could benefit Britain

From Michael Hornsby

A tax on oil imports into the EEC is being considered by European Commission experts as a way of increasing Community budget revenue, reducing dependence on external oil supplies and boosting investment in indigenous energy resources.

If the tax were introduced—and it is only one of several ideas under discussion—it could improve Britain's budgetary position markedly over a number of years, but it is not seen here as an answer to Britain's immediate budget problem.

The idea is being pushed by Herr Guido Brunner, the EEC Energy Commissioner, who argues that in the present climate of uncertainty about oil supplies it is vital that the EEC should develop a more united energy policy.

Although Mr Roy Jenkins, the President of the Commission, is understood to favour the scheme, there is considerable scepticism among other commissioners. It also seems likely to run into opposition from the French and the West Germans.

A tax on oil imports would help Britain in two ways. First, it would provide a new source of EEC revenue to which other countries would contribute much more heavily than Britain, which can meet most of its oil requirements from North Sea supplies.

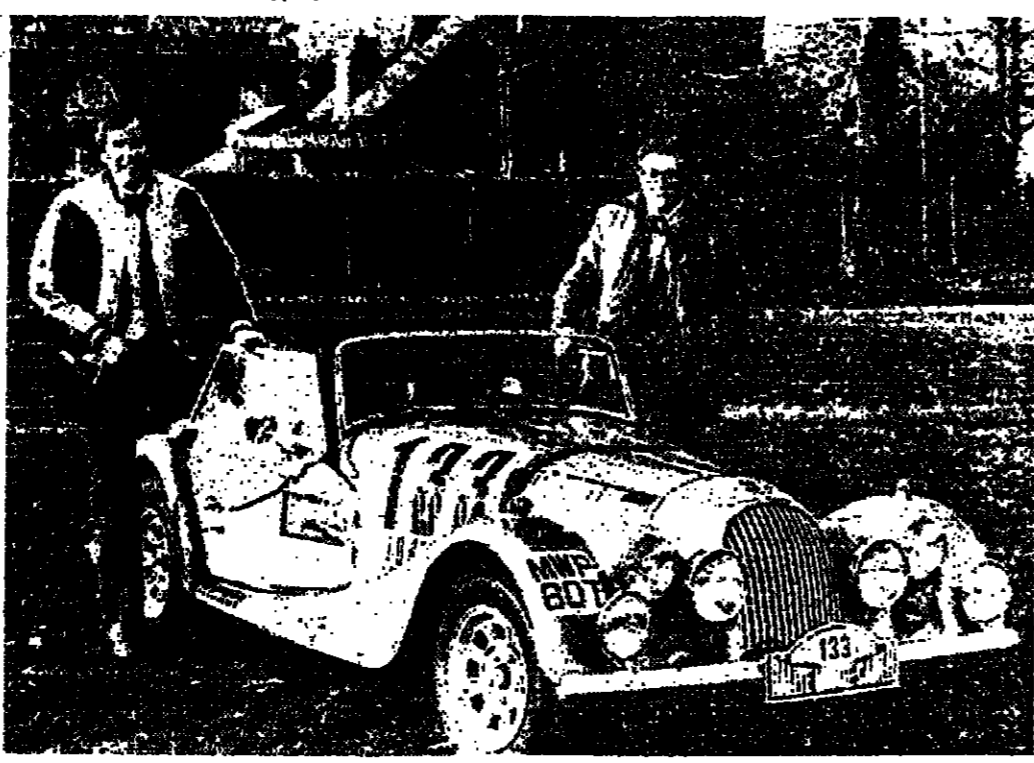
Second, North Sea oil would sell at a premium inside the EEC where the price would equal the world price plus whatever amount of import tax was imposed. In theory, this would give Britain an incentive to sell more of its oil within the community and thus reduce the dependence of the EEC as a whole on external supplies.

It is acknowledged that there are serious difficulties with such a scheme, not least the free trade obligations the EEC is bound to observe under the general agreement on tariffs and trade (GATT).

Herr Brunner argues, however, that Arab oil-exporting countries might be persuaded that an import tax was in their interests since it would tend to reduce EEC consumption and slow down the depletion of Middle East oil reserves.

There are serious worries, however, about the effect of such a scheme on economic growth in the EEC. Some commissioners also prefer the idea of a tax on internal energy consumption, which would not help Britain.

The revenue derived from such schemes would be intended primarily for investment in developing energy resources in countries like Italy, Denmark and Ireland, which are particularly dependent on external supplies. But spending on the development of the coal industry could be of benefit to Britain.



Philip Young (left) and his navigator Tony Ambrose in Regent's Park with their Morgan car, ready for the Monte Carlo Rally.

Energy experiment which Britain abandoned gets under way on a plain in Spain

Trapping a town's power from sun

From Harry Debelius

Tabernas, Spain, Jan 17

The construction of a solar power plant capable of generating enough electricity to supply a small town got under way here today as an experimental project of the International Energy Agency (IEA).

Britain opted out of the project, the first to use liquid sodium as a heat transfer element and unique in its ability to transfer the effectiveness of different systems for capturing solar energy.

It was initially funded by Britain and nine other members of the agency but last May, after reviewing the design, Britain decided not to put up any more cash.

The cost of £20m, including £15m for installation and £5m for maintenance and evaluation, was presumably discouraged by the British Government from investing beyond the early research.

However, as Mr Wilfried

Brasse, the project director,

said, it is a prototype and it would be unreasonable to expect it to be cost competitive with conventional systems at the moment.

The nine countries still involved in the project are Austria, Belgium, West Germany, Greece, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States. Contracts for material and systems have been awarded with preference to the financing countries. However, a British company, Laing, is the main building contractor.

A plain designated the "solar platform" was chosen because this is the sunniest part of Europe with an estimated 3,000 hours of sunshine a year (compared with, for example, Sweden's 1,600 hours).

However, a copy of the local daily newspaper *Voz de Almería*, sealed into the cornerstone at the dedication ceremony today, carried a front page headline referring to several villages in the Tabernas

area being snowed in by exceptionally cold, wet weather.

Fortunately, for the organizers of the event, the sun shone just as the aircraft carrying Señor Carlos Bustelo, Spain's Industry Minister, touched down at Almería airport nearly about an hour before the ceremony.

The experimental suntrap consists of two parts. The first is a central receiver system composed of sun-following mirrors, known as heliostats, which reflect solar rays to a tower-mounted boiler to heat sodium for turning water into steam to power a generator. The other part is a collector system which consists of a field of two different types of trough-shaped devices which concentrate the sun's rays on to a pipe mounted along the length of the suntrap.

Each system occupies about the space of half-a-dozen football pitches and contains about 2,600 square metres of reflectorized surface.

Mr Martens carries on with weaker coalition

From Our Own Correspondent

Brussels, Jan 17

Mr Wilfried Martens, Belgium's Prime Minister, is once again struggling to hold together a disintegrating coalition only a week after he had appeared to have patched up a quarrel between its Flemish and Walloon members.

The latest crisis was precipitated yesterday by the resignation of, according to less official but probably more accurate versions, expulsion of the small Brussels-based French speakers' democratic front.

This still leaves Mr Martens with a working majority, though not the two-thirds majority necessary for the constitutional changes needed to complete the planned transformation of Belgium into a three-region federal state.

However, the next stage in the devolution programme will not involve constitutional amendment, and Mr Martens is trying to soldier on with the remaining four parties in the coalition, the Walloon and Flemish wings of the Christian Democrats and the Socialists.

Success in this enterprise depends on the attitude of the Walloon (French-speaking) Socialists, who today demanded

assurances about the "irreversibility" of Belgium's division into three regions, Flanders, the Brussels area and Wallonia.

The principle of the three-way division has been enshrined in the Belgian constitution since 1971, but no agreement has ever been reached on the relative powers and status to be accorded to each region.

The French speakers accuse the Flemings of seeking to go back on this constitutional commitment, but the Flemings insist that they have never accepted that Brussels should be a region with the same rights and status as the other two.

Brussels is a French dominated enclave inside Flanders, and the Flemings, who are in a majority in the country as a whole, say they could never agree to a federal structure in which two out of three regions were French controlled.

The collapse of last week's agreement was provoked by disclosure of a secret pact between the French-speaking parties under which they would use their combined votes to delay legislation deemed detrimental to the interests of Brussels or Wallonia.

This was denounced as unconstitutional by the Flemings.

Europe MPs want say in choice of Commission

From David Wood

Strasbourg, Jan 17

Pressure is growing in the European Parliament this week for a say in the Council of Ministers' choice of commissioners to succeed Mr Roy Jenkins and his 12 colleagues when their four-year leasehold runs out on December 31.

There is accompanying pressure, particularly among Conservatives in the European Democratic Group, for the Commission to be reduced in size to a president and one commissioner from each of the Nine member countries.

In the parliamentary corridors it is freely predicted that the Council of Ministers will have to reach a decision on commission candidates and the "portfolio" they want by early June. Mr James Scott-Hopkins, the Conservative leader, says that the European Parliament must ensure that national governments and the Council of Ministers fully consult members of the European Parliament.

That is not to say that the British contingent has yet settled on one candidate whose claims could be pressed on Mrs Margaret Thatcher, or on the Commission portfolio that would be most relevant for Britain.

As Mr Jenkins comes to the end of his stint, the presidency will pass from Britain, and it is probable that Paris and Bonn will support Mr Gaston Thorn, the former Prime Minister of Luxembourg, and a profoundly experienced European politician well liked by the Parliament.

If the British Government had only one commissioner to nominate for a reduced Commission, the European Democratic Group would urge Mrs Thatcher to choose somebody with an established international reputation and experience at the top.

In the extremely tentative name-guessing audible in Strasbourg this week, Sir Michael Palliser, head of the Foreign Office and former EEC Ambassador in Brussels, and Sir Richard Marsh, former chairman of British Rail, have been mentioned. Nobody, however, is yet willing to give odds on either. The book remains to be made.

Parliamentary report, page 6.

Jenkins visit to Belgrade will show EEC concern

From Our Own Correspondent

Brussels, Jan 17

In a gesture of support for Yugoslavia, Mr Roy Jenkins, the President of the European Commission, is to visit Belgrade about the middle of next month. The planned visit reflects growing concern in the EEC about the ill health of President Tito and possible Soviet pressure on Yugoslavia if the 87-year-old leader should die.

The hope here is that a new trade agreement offering the Yugoslavs much more generous access than at present to Community markets, will have been concluded in time for cere-

monial signature by Mr Jenkins during his stay in Belgrade.

EEC foreign ministers agreed in Brussels earlier this week on the need to offer Yugoslavia much bigger trade concessions than hitherto. Details have still to be worked out by the committee of member states' permanent representatives in Brussels. The commission will then have to reopen negotiations with Belgrade.

Yugoslavia's trade deficit with the EEC is running at an annual rate of more than £1,500m.

King Alphonso's remains go home from Italy

From Our Own Correspondent

Rome, Jan 17

The remains of Alphonso XIII, grandfather of the present King of Spain, were today removed from the Church of Santa Maria di Monserrato where they were placed when he died in Rome in 1941.

They were taken to Civitavecchia and brought on board the frigate Asturias which then set off for Spain. The remains are to be placed in the Escorial, the royal palace outside Madrid.

The departure was marked by a Mass celebrated by Cardinal Bertoldi and the rector of the church. This church serves the Spanish community in Rome and contains the tombs of two Spanish Popes.

Signor Tommaso Morlino, the Minister of Justice, represented the Italian Government and Signor Antonio Maccanico, the head of state. The Spanish delegation was led by the Count of Barcelona, son of Alphonso XIII.

Dutch homosexual fights loss of his US visa

From Robert Schull

Amsterdam, Jan 17

The entry visa to the United States of a homosexual has been annulled by the American authorities, Mr Bear Capron, aged 29, an American who took Dutch nationality in 1978, lost his visa after he told the Consulate General of the United States in Amsterdam that he was "an active practising homosexual".

As far as is known Mr Capron is the first Dutch citizen to suffer the consequences of the recent decision by the American Department of Justice to refuse admission to foreign homosexuals.

Mr Capron has asked a firm of lawyers in the United States to fight the decision in the American courts. Mr Harry van der Bergh, a Dutch Labour MP, has called on Mr Christoph van der Klaauw, the Foreign Minister, to lodge a protest with Washington.

Mr Capron took the initiative of informing the Consulate

General of his sexual preferences. He had already received his visa for the United States in October, 1978.

After reading recently about the American measure he went to the consulate authorities to inform them of their "mistake" in granting him the visa.

He left his passport behind and when it was returned to him a week later his visa had been annulled.

Most of the main political parties and many leading personalities in The Netherlands have condemned the American measure which was announced by the United States Immigration Service, at the end of December.

Recently, members of the Dutch homosexual movement donned police-style uniforms marked "Homo Squad, Holland" and interrogated arriving American passengers at Amsterdam airport as to their sexual preference to demonstrate the humiliating effect of the American measure.

Strasbourg gain might mean Luxembourg loss

From Our European

Political Editor

Strasbourg, Jan 17

The managerial bureau of the European Parliament last night made a decision that will shock the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. It announced that all meetings of the Parliament up to June this year will be held in Strasbourg and that no other meetings will be arranged until the parliamentary demand for a single site has been resolved.

In effect it means that Luxembourg may have lost the battle to share parliamentary meetings with Strasbourg although an expensive new parliamentary building has just been completed with 500 seats on the Kirschberg site.

Rebel historian appointed to Spanish Cabinet

Madrid, Jan 17.—Señor Ricardo de la Cierva, the historian, has been appointed Minister of Culture, replacing Señor Manuel Clavero who resigned in a dispute over home rule policy.

The appointment of Señor de la Cierva, a high official in the Information Ministry in the Franco years, was accompanied by a minor Cabinet reshuffle.

Señor de la Cierva, the author of several books on the Spanish Civil War, wrote an article entitled "What a Mistake, What a Huge Mistake," after Dr Suárez was appointed Prime Minister in July, 1976.—UPI

Budget approved

Paris, Jan 17.—After repeated birth-pains, the French budget has finally come into existence. The 1980 budget was voted today by the Senate, which approved expenses of 525,000m francs (£58,333m) and a deficit of 31,000m francs.



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In the red corner **Herbert Marcuse.**
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Swedish sociologist, Göran Therborn adds up the points contributed to Twentieth Century thought by the opposing theories of two of its most significant social thinkers who died last year.

Also in this week's Times Higher Education Supplement:

- *The role of the UN in an increasingly dangerous world.
- *Chinese higher education since the Cultural Revolution.
- *The rise of the Tory intellectuals.
- *Women's studies come of age.

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SUPPLEMENT

Every Friday.

AFGHANISTAN/IRAN

Herr Schmidt pledges support for US but will see Mr Brezhnev

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Jan 17

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, today pledged West Germany's support for United States sanctions against Iran and the Soviet Union as an "absolutely reliable ally and friend".

At the same time he promised that the Government would step up its efforts for peace in Europe and for détente and would persist in efforts for arms reduction and control.

He said he still intended to meet President Brezhnev and Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, as planned over the next two or three months. "We must make it clear where we stand... To this purpose we must talk to each other."

West Germany will increase its already sizable aid to countries it considers threatened by the Afghanistan crisis, in particular Pakistan, India and Turkey. He recalled that government ministers were already involved in talks on cooperation with the Gulf States.

The Chancellor, who was making a formal statement to Parliament on the international situation and its domestic consequences, did not go into the question of West Germany itself joining in sanctions against Iran and the Soviet Union. These matters which are being discussed with its Community and Nato partners, raise many problems for the Government.

Apart from West Germany's huge business interests and fears for the West German community in Iran, the Government has to consider the cost to its relations with the Eastern bloc.

The Chancellor's speech showed the Government's desire, despite temporarily conflicting interests, to remain true to the two fundamental principles of West German foreign policy: complete loyalty to the United States ("irreplaceable for our security") and to save and

continue its policy of détente and peace in Europe.

Many overtones in the Chancellor's speech appeared not unconnected with the fact that West Germany has Bundestag elections this autumn. Herr Schmidt, who has made himself a reputation as a cool operator in times of stress, said what was needed was "carefully thought out crisis management". A calm approach by the Government was not "pussyfooting"—a charged levelled by the Opposition—and loud words were not West Germany's style.

He reassured his countrymen that their security is guaranteed by Nato and the United States. "Therefore we do not need to have fear during a crisis."

Despite the effects of the energy crisis, West Germany had entered the new year in an economically "good starting position". Experience had shown that West Germans were capable of preserving their stability in times of crisis. The Chancellor said he was confident about the future.

Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the opposition Chancellor candidate, criticised the Government but maintained a highly cautious position himself. "Only a fool would want any other policy but that of détente and peace," he said. But European governments had dulled their public awareness of the real nature and intentions of the Soviet Union.

Since 1970 Moscow, he said, had been conducting naked, brutal power politics, "not global goals but he was convinced that it did not want a third world war."

Real détente, he said, required a military balance and not a politico-psychological neutralization or a reduction of the nation's will to defend itself.

The Soviet Union must be made to realize that it has to pull its troops out of Afghanistan and not take any further steps towards a détente which would collapse completely.

Russian military machine, and Soviet mistake, page 14
Leading article, page 15



The deposed Shah of Iran at his refuge on Contadora Island, Panama, with Mr David Frost who interviewed him for the Yorkshire Television series beginning tonight.

Russia accused of coveting Iran

Tehran, Jan 17.—In the strongest Iranian attack so far on the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, Mr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the Finance Minister, has accused Moscow of wanting to divide Iran and push on to the Indian Ocean.

His attack was part of a campaign speech published today by the official Pars news agency. Mr Bani-Sadr, a leading contender for the Presidency, said: "They want us to be divided rather than united so that they can capture the divided parts, as they did with Afghanistan."

He was speaking last night in the oil refinery city of Abadan on the Gulf.

In their opinion the Turks are a minority. The Baluchis,

Persians and Arabs are also minorities, whereas we have been living together for centuries and have a common life and culture," Mr Bani-Sadr said.

His chances of election appear to have been boosted by the withdrawal of Mr Jafar-eleddin Farsi, the ruling Islamic Republican Party (IRP) candidate, whose Afghan origins have disqualified him under the terms of the constitution.

Mr Bani-Sadr, a member of the ruling Revolutionary Council added: "We must pave the way for the uprising of the deprived nations and change the political map of the world. In Islamic government, there is no discrimination."

He said it was not the time to remain silent on what he called the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan or on the depredations of the United States all over the world.—Reuter.

Court's deadline: The World Court at The Hague today set February 18 as the deadline for Iran to present its defence against the United States case concerning the occupation of the American embassy in Tehran.

The next hearing will involve the substance of American claims that Iran should be condemned for violating international law. The court said Iran could apply for an extension of the time limit.—Reuter.

Lord Carrington plays down differences with India

From David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent
Delhi, Jan 17

Lord Carrington did his best today to put a good face on the sharp difference of opinion between Britain and India over the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

There was scope for "differences of perspective", but there was "no room for disagreement on the dangers to the sub-continent, the Foreign Secretary admitted at the conclusion of his talks in Delhi tonight.

"Britain and India both want to see Soviet troops out of Afghanistan," he said. "Neither of us has a ready-made prescription of the best way to achieve this."

The crux of the difference of opinion is that Britain believes in taking the strongest possible line in protest against the Soviet action, while the Indians counsel restraint to avoid making matters worse.

British officials were horrified by the outspoken and unqualified endorsement of the Soviet case made by the Indian representative at the United Nations.

Although India, mindful of the danger of the bad impression created among other non-aligned countries, abstained in the final vote there is no doubt that Mrs Gandhi herself stands very close to the Soviet line.

She refused to condemn the Soviet Union or say that Soviet aggression underlay the present

danger to the region, talking to reporters after her 45-minute conversation with Lord Carrington. And in speeches today, she indicated that the danger to India came from the United States ever raising the issue of "India does not support any foreign intervention anywhere".

Mrs Gandhi said today, speaking in Hyderabad. "But in the case of Afghanistan the Revolutionary Council of that country had invited the Russians."

Asked later in the day if increased United States aid to Pakistan justified the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, Mrs Gandhi somewhat qualified her support by saying: "I am not justifying it. We do not approve of it."

Mrs Gandhi is far from enamoured of the United States and Britain, which formerly criticized her leadership, and India is dependent on the Soviet Union for arms. If Pakistan ever raises the issue of Kashmir again, India wants Russian support.

Lord Carrington tried today to reassure Mr P. V. Narasimha Rao, the Indian Minister for External Affairs, that American help for Pakistan was a different thing in the present context, from a threat to India.

Britain itself is not an arms supplier to Pakistan.

The American arms credits, the Foreign Secretary added, at \$200 million over two years, were hardly a threat to suggest that Pakistan was any threat to India.

Gulf minister fears new colonial era

Bahrain, Jan 17.—The Soviet intervention in Afghanistan has opened a new colonial era, and Moscow's strategy is to get closer to the oil-producing areas, Shaikh Muhammad bin Mubarak al-Khalifa, the Foreign Minister, said in an interview with the newspaper *Akhbar Al Khaleej*.

Defence of the area must be undertaken by the Gulf states themselves and they should unite their forces and coordinate their strategies, he said.

He denied foreign press reports that Washington had ordered Bahrain to provide military bases.

Romanians rearm: Romania, which refused to sanction the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, will strengthen its defences to face the tense situation, President Nicolae Ceausescu said today in a broadcast monitored in Vienna.

He told an audience in Bucharest that the country would re-equip its Army and step up training of workers' militia and para-military youth groups to defend national independence and sovereignty.

The call for new arms for the Romanian Army was all the more significant because the President has long opposed the holding of the Islamic summit in South-West Asia. A key element would be the use of existing military installations in pro-Western countries in North Africa and the Near East, as well as Kenya, Oman and Somalia.

The call for new arms for the Romanian Army was all the more significant because the President has long opposed the holding of the Islamic summit in South-West Asia. A key element would be the use of existing military installations in pro-Western countries in North Africa and the Near East, as well as Kenya, Oman and Somalia.

OVERSEAS

Judge attacks Soames leniency towards convicted murderers

From Frederick Cleary
Salisbury, Jan 17

The Southern Rhodesian Chief Justice today criticised Lord Soames, the Governor, for his recent decision to commute the death sentences on 11 convicted African murderers.

The decision aroused considerable criticism here from Bishop Abel Muzorewa's Uanc party and from whites, particularly Mr Christian Andersen, the retiring Minister of Justice.

Mr Justice MacDonald, sitting in the new death sentences, said in his judgment the country's judges were "bewildered" by the Governor's action and were seeking guidance on that of course, possible for the judiciary of any country to carry out its very important functions if sentences passed in strict conformity with the law are nullified by an executive as a matter of course, and if this were done a very serious and quite impossible situation would arise."

The judge said the death penalty could not lawfully be abolished, excepting the exercise of the prerogative of mercy. This

could only be done by an alteration to the law. To use the prerogative of mercy as a *de facto* method of abolishing the death penalty would be a grave abuse of the power which the prerogative conferred.

"It is not to be assumed that such a use was made of the prerogative in commuting the death sentences passed on the 11 murderers", he said.

"The judges should accept whatever sentences may be entertained at present, that a policy of automatically commuting all death sentences has not been adopted by the executive, that the prerogative of mercy in the court order with 11 instances was exercised in accord with the principles underlying the prerogative and within its limitations, and that there has been no impropriety on the part of the executive."

He said the judges should continue to sit in cases where it might be necessary to impose the death penalty.

All 11 reprieved men were sentenced for murders involving shooting, strangling, clubbing, knifing or burning their victims.

Some Nablu settlers ready to leave site

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, Jan 17

Elon Moreh settlers voted early this morning to give up their hold on a site south of Nablu, which an Israeli Court ruling said had been requisitioned unlawfully, and to settle at another site east of Nablu prepared for them by the Government.

The settlers and the Government ended a "deal" but the Government is now expected to take steps to ensure that other Jewish settlements in the West Bank are not similarly evicted.

Doubts about the future of Israeli settlements were raised by the Supreme Court judgment today that the Government had requisitioned the land had been requisitioned by the military government and said that under the Hague Convention all operations by the military government were valid only for the duration of the occupation.

The Camp David agreement between Egypt and Israel calls for the transfer of authority from the military government in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to an Arab Administrative Council, but the parties have not agreed on what authority should be transferred.

The Israelis want to keep control of security and other matters.

Mr Vitzhak Zamir, the Attorney General, had prepared a decision giving all the options concerning the status of the

territories from doing nothing to annexation. Mr Samuel Tamir, the Minister of Justice, has said the Cabinet would not take a decision as long as the Elon Moreh settlers continue to defy the Supreme Court ruling.

Gush Emunim, the militant organization that sponsored Elon Moreh, had linked compliance with the matter long as the Government agreed to change in the legal status of the territory so that the terms of the Hague Convention should not apply.

Elon Moreh settlers said today they were prepared to end their three months' resistance to the move partly by 30 Knesset members, one quarter of the total, who pledged in writing to press for legislation for a change in the status of the territories.

They said they were also satisfied that Mr Begin, the Prime Minister, had been persuaded that something must be done and added that they wanted to avoid a confrontation with the armed forces.

The Government twice postponed deadlines for their eviction but appeared determined to enforce the next one at the end of next month.

However the danger of a confrontation has not passed. The vote to leave was by 45 to 15 and the minority said it would resist moving, claiming there were applicants for settlement willing to replace those who agree to be transferred.

The recent human rights report from the United Nations indicated that "the regime was more tyrannical than before". According to reports from Chile torture is still widely used by the secret police.

Leading article, page 15

US pressure to settle issue of Palestinians

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Jan 17

The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan has reinforced Western demands for a settlement to the Palestinian issue by the end of May as originally envisaged in the Camp David agreements.

After a meeting between President Carter and Mr Hosni Mubarak, the Egyptian Vice-President in Washington today the two leaders issued a statement which "stressed the importance they place on sustained movement in the (Palestinian) autonomy talks".

Last week in Aswan President Sadat and Mr Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, failed to make any discernible progress on Palestinian rights.

To try to achieve an agreement by the end-of-May deadline, Mr Sol Linowitz, Mr Carter's special Middle East envoy, is broadening a trip he was originally due to make to Israel later this month to encompass visits to moderate Arab states like Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Morocco. These are all countries which would almost certainly be more willing to join an informal regional security cooperation pact with the United States once the question of Palestinian autonomy was resolved.

President Carter is considering building what is being called a strengthened framework for regional cooperation in South-West Asia. A key element would be the use of existing military installations in pro-Western countries in North Africa and the Near East, as well as Kenya, Oman and Somalia.

Israel jails soldier again for objection to posting

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, Jan 17

Mr Daniel Amir, an Israeli Army private who recently completed a 35-day sentence in a military prison for refusing to serve in occupied territories was this week sentenced to a further 35 days imprisonment on the same charge.

Mr Amir is one of a group of 27 young Israelis who announced publicly on graduation from high school last summer that they would refuse to serve in either the occupied West Bank or the Gaza Strip during their three-year compulsory military service.

It was disclosed here today that Mr Amir, the only member of the ad hoc group so far enrolled into the Army, was released from prison on January 2 and returned to basic training. On Sunday he was again sentenced to serve in the territories and once again he refused.

Senior Israeli Army sources claim that the problem of soldiers refusing to serve in what are officially described as the administered territories is a serious one of public significance. It received publicity last year when a Jerusalem journalist who was a reserve lieutenant received a 14-day prison sentence on a similar charge.

Tour operators 'fail to advise on mosquito risk'

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, Jan 17

The World Health Organization is critical of European tour operators who take large numbers of people to African countries, north and south of the Sahara, without impressing upon them that precautions against mosquitoes are essential.

"Unfortunately, public health authorities in many countries are lax on this," Dr Paul Bress, chief medical officer of the WHO viral diseases unit, said today. He pointed out that mosquitoes are frequent carriers of different bacterial or viral diseases, in addition to malaria. These include Rift Valley fever, formerly known only as a disease among sheep and cattle.

Labour MPs angry at decision on Chile

By David Watts

Mr Peter Shore, the Shadow spokesman on foreign affairs, led a groundswell of protest last night against the Government's decision to restore diplomatic relations with Chile at ambassadorial level. The protest was amplified by a statement from Amnesty International which termed the decision a "deadly blow" for the cause of human rights in Latin America.

In spite of Foreign Office disclaimers, there was no doubt that the decision to exchange ambassadors which was announced last night would be seen as approval for one of the chief oppressors of human rights victims in Latin America, said Mr Cosmas Desmond, the director of the British section of Amnesty International.

Noting that the ambassador had been withdrawn on a human rights issue, the arrest and torture of Dr Sheila Cassidy, Mr Desmond said that the previous government was strengthened in its resolve not to return the ambassador because of another specific case involving a British passport holder, Mr William Beasore.

He was kidnapped in Buenos Aires, a British passport torn up, and flown back to Chile in a military aircraft where he was tortured for months until his health was broken and then he disappeared for good.

We have repeatedly pointed out to Mr Nicholas Ridley, Minister of State at the Foreign Office with responsibility for Latin America, that we do not maintain that diplomatic relations should be determined by human rights considerations.

"But in the case of Chile a definite link between human rights and diplomatic relations has already been established. To ignore this is implicitly to condone not only the disappearance of William Beasore, but at least 1,500 other victims, but the legal impediments to realistic investigation into the discovery of corpses of disappeared people in no fewer than five separate locations in Chile."

Mr Shore said that the decision to send an ambassador to Chile indicated that in Britain's view there had been an improvement in the conduct of the regime.

This was not the case, an opinion shared by the United States, he said, since only a month ago the Chilean Embassy in Santiago had been reduced in size, trading credits cut back and military supplies cut off.

The recent human rights report from the United Nations indicated that "the regime was more tyrannical than before". According to reports from Chile torture is still widely used by the secret police.

Leading article, page 15

Air attacks near Kabul shake city

From Robert Fisk
Kabul, January 17

The sound of bombs exploding and artillery fire boomed across Kabul today as Soviet military aircraft wheeled above the city, apparently on bombing missions against tribesmen in mountains near the Salang Pass.

The explosions could be heard almost every 20 seconds for two hours.

There was no immediate explanation for the new outburst of fighting—the nearest conflict to the city since the Soviet backed coup here last December. Some of the explosions shook the windows of my hotel.

Whether by coincidence or design, the Afghan authorities also chose to expel all American journalists from Afghanistan today. An official from the Afghan Ministry of the Interior, who refused to give his name, arrived at the International Hotel, where most of the western press are staying, and ordered all American correspondents to leave the country.

The expulsions came after some extraordinary scenes in the lobby of the hotel last night when United States journalists refused to hand over their passports for "registration" to Afghan officials.

US protest at ousting of reporters

From David Cross
Washington, Jan 17

The United States today deplored the expulsion of American journalists from Afghanistan and announced that it had lodged a formal protest with Kabul against the move.

A State Department spokesman said the action by the Soviet authorities and their Afghan "puppet" administration was a "clear sign that they wish to deny the United States public information about what is really happening in that country."

In spite of the continuing hostility between Washington and Moscow, however, the United States and Soviet ambassadors are returning to their posts tomorrow.

Describing the military situation in Afghanistan, the spokesman said that fighting in the eastern part of the country was intense and control of the area remained "critical" for Soviet and Afghan troops. Nationalist forces were continuing to cut vital lines of communications and Soviet troops were having to concentrate more and more on keeping roads open. There were reports of a Soviet advance on the city of Kandahar after a lull during recent days.

Rebels run day trips across border

From Ian Murray
Shinkai Hills, Badkash Province, Afghanistan, Jan 17

A thud echoed through the mountains and from over the ridge in front of us a puff of grey smoke rose into the blue sky. Big Sadoo beamed happily and pointed with his AK rifle towards the town of Khawst spread out in the distance below.

"Boom," he said. "Tam. Tam. Tam," and his hand went down in a crushing movement. The shale on the mountainside.

Sadoo was introduced to us yesterday as one of the leader heroes of the *Mujahideen*. A bull of a man, with a huge black beard, his eyes smiled with pleasure as he talked of the 80 or more men he had killed since taking to the hills to fight against the Communist Army in Afghanistan.

He has a plastic band garland woven round the end of his gun because, he says, he wants to be beautiful. "God's weapon" which he is using to kill the "enemies of Islam" in his country. The Sadoo group, he says, is up to 1,000 strong.

We met Sadoo at what was described as his group "office" in Miran Shah, the capital of North Waziristan, across the border in Pakistan.

The six main groups of *Mujahideen* fighters all have offices in Miran Shah and it is impossible to visit one without

Olympics president rejects Prime Minister's appeal

By John Hennessy

Lord Killanin, president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), was unmoved yesterday by the exchanges in the House of Commons, during which the Prime Minister said that there should be concerted action to try to have the Olympic Games moved from Moscow.

"We have a contract with Moscow, and as there has been no breach on their side, we have no intention of going back on our word," he said.

He added that if he received an approach from the British Government he would have to point out that under Olympic rules "we do not deal with governments but with National Olympic Committees in the various countries. A British approach to the IOC would have to come from the British Olympic Association."

Sir Denis Follows, chairman of the association, was more forthright: "If there are any games held anywhere else," he said, "they will be in opposition to the Moscow Olympics and not a substitute for them. We cannot ratify an agreement. And by international law, they couldn't even be called Olympic Games, because of the copyright."

They would not be attractive to athletes because the standard would be very much lower than some regional games, the Commonwealth Games for instance.

Meanwhile, Hands Off Afghanistan Campaign has appealed to Lord Killanin to find another site for the games. The all-party group says in a letter that interference with the Olympic Games should not be the only method of expressing world revulsion at the Soviet action, but that the games can

Pakistan insists on Islamic talks

From Hasan Akhtar
Islamabad, Jan 17

The Pakistan Government has rejected a call by Syria, Libya, Algeria, South Yemen and the Palestinian Liberation Organization to cancel the holding of the Islamic summit in South-West Asia. A key element would be the use of existing military installations in pro-Western countries in North Africa and the Near East, as well as Kenya, Oman and Somalia.

The Netherlands: Mr Chris van der Klaauw, the Foreign Minister, said the Dutch Government should not take a decision now on a boycott. In his view it was a question for the sports organizations.

China: Mr Soong Zhong, head of the Chinese Olympic Committee, has told Japanese journalists that China might participate in a boycott, the Kyodo News service said in Tokyo.

Stockholm: The Swedish Olympic Committee said it supported Lord Killanin in his view that it would be impossible to move the Games.

Kuala Lumpur: Malaysia may decide to pull out of the Moscow Olympics if more other countries do so, sports officials

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Reward offered after killing of Greek policeman

From Our Correspondent
Athens, Jan 17

The Greek Government is offering a reward of 8m drachmas (£100,000) for information leading to the arrest of a man who shot and fatally injured the deputy chief of the police riot control squad and his driver.

Police Superintendent Panelis Petrou and his police driver, Sotiris Katsoulis, were stopped and fired upon while driving to the officer's home from his office last night. The officer died almost immediately from six bullet wounds and the driver died early today in hospital after surgery.

The armed men left behind a long statement attacking the riot squad for "armed anti-popular violence".

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مكازم التحصيل

OVERSEAS

Mr Trudeau kept out of spotlight as Canadian Liberals run safe campaign in expectation of victory

From John Best

Ottawa, Jan 17—Canada's Conservative Government, which held office for only six months before being toppled on a House of Commons confidence vote on December 13, is fighting an uphill battle to retain power in the general election on February 18.

Opinion polls have convinced most political observers that only a dramatic reversal in voter preferences between now and the end of the election campaign can prevent the Liberals, led by Mr Pierre Trudeau, from being returned to office.

The Liberals are so convinced they have the election sewn up that they have Mr Trudeau, the former Prime Minister, conducting what amounts to a non-campaign. The strategy is to avoid drawing him into the spotlight, and above all to minimize the chances of his making any disastrous mistakes.

Thus Mr Trudeau has been travelling across the country making stop-and-go, low-key speeches, doing his best to embellish the wide-field of Mr Joe Clark, the Prime Minister, as a weak, ineffectual leader, and generally steering clear of strong policy positions.

based on a considerable extent on the realization that outside his native Quebec, Mr Trudeau is at best an uncertain asset. Intense voter antagonism towards him in English-speaking Canada contributed to the Liberal defeat in last year's election, which brought minority Conservative Government to power, and the antipathy has far from dissipated.

The most telling demonstration of the Liberal approach came just a few days ago, when Mr Trudeau refused to take part in a nationally-televised debate with Mr Clark and Mr

Ed Broadbent, leader of the moderately left-wing New Democratic Party.

Whether the Liberal strategy works may depend on how successful the Conservatives are in making English-speaking Canadians understand that the alternative to the reelection of a Conservative government is a return of Mr Trudeau. This reality has to some extent been lost sight of in the welter of attacks on Mr Clark.

The Conservatives could also try to capitalize on the fact that Mr Trudeau would be, in a sense, a lame-duck Prime Minister. He has pledged that he will be his last election, whether he wins or loses. This means that Canadians are being asked to vote for a party without knowing who will be its leader two or three years from now.

Mr Trudeau had already announced his resignation from the leadership of the Liberal Party when the sudden fall of the Government induced him to reconsider, and fight one more election.

Mr Clark, for his part, is facing enormous difficulties in this campaign. Just 40 years old, he is considered by many to be too young to be Prime Minister, and for evidence they point to his reputation for indecisiveness and for policy inconsistencies, not to mention broken promises, while he was in office.

On other things, he failed to deliver on electoral pledges to stimulate the economy through widespread tax cuts. The debacle over his promise to move the country's embassy in Jerusalem further undermined Conservative credibility.

Mr Clark is, however, an earnest and hard-working campaigner, not lacking in courage and tenacity.

The campaign overriding issue in the campaign apart from the personalities of the party

leaders, is energy. The Conservatives are sticking by the budget presented in the Commons on December 11 by Mr John Crosbie, the Finance Minister, which resulted in the overthrow of the Government two days later.

It proposed to more than double the price of crude oil in Canada over a four-year period, and levy an immediate 18 per cent a gallon increase in the petrol excise tax. The Conservatives insist that such increases were necessary to promote conservation and move Canada towards energy self-sufficiency.

The Liberals and New Democrats oppose the excise tax increase, and would raise the artificially-low price of crude oil in easier stages. Similarly, both opposition parties are against the Conservative plans to break up Petro-Canada, the state-owned oil company, and sell parts of it to the private sector.

In the area of social security, the Liberals have promised to boost old-age pension supplements, paid to the neediest pensioners, while the Conservatives pledge to reverse the introduction into the last Parliament but never passed, to grant home-owners an income tax credit for mortgage interest and property tax payments.

Quebec criticism. The Parti Québécois has been swift to denounce the policy document published last week by the Quebec Liberal Party in which it proposed greater provincial participation in the central Government with the creation of a new body, the Federal Council, and restriction on unilateral intrusion by the federal Government in provincial matters.

Mr René Lévesque, the Premier of Quebec, called the document "a heaven-sent gift" for his party because the document recommends no special status for Quebec.

McCartney tour off and he goes back to jail

Tokyo, Jan 17—Paul McCartney, the former Beatle, claimed the marijuana he smuggled to Japan was intended for his personal consumption, and that it was less toxic than alcohol, narcotics officials said.

Mr McCartney was arrested yesterday at Tokyo's international airport for allegedly trying to bring in eight ounces of marijuana and underwent about six hours of questioning today.

The narcotics agents who escorted Mr McCartney back to the police detention centre after the questioning were forced to draw him into the building as about 200 young people bared the way screaming, "Paul, Paul".

Riot police were ordered to the scene and two fire engines also attended, in answer to a fax telephone call, officials said.

Mr McCartney, aged 37, who came to Japan for a 11-day performance tour with his wife, Linda, four children and his group, Wings, will spend his second night in Japan at the detention centre, the authorities said. But narcotics officials are not saying whether Mr McCartney will be referred to the Tokyo district public prosecutor's office for trial or whether he will be deported.

Officials of the Ministry of Justice have not excluded the possibility of deporting Mr McCartney because, they say, he had not legally landed when he was seized. If prosecuted, Mr McCartney could face a prison sentence of up to seven years under Japan's stringent drug laws.

He is said to have told investigators that he felt marijuana is less toxic than alcohol and that he intended to smoke it privately during his performance tour. The tour has been cancelled. He was accompanied by a Japanese lawyer during the questioning, which was conducted in English.—UPI

Mr Marcos ousts minister

Manila, Jan 17—President Marcos of the Philippines, dismissed his rebellious Minister of Information today and challenged the political opposition to try to overthrow him by a coup.

He told a televised press conference that he had asked Mr Francisco Tatad the Minister of Information to go on leave and submit his resignation, accusing him of using the office to enrich himself.

Mr Marcos said he had ordered Mr Tatad to turn over all his functions to Mr Gregorio Sison, director of the National Media Production Centre, who was named just before the press conference as acting Minister of Information.

Mr Tatad reported that he was ready to resign but denied the allegation of corruption. Mr Tatad had caused a political storm by openly campaigning his home province of Catanduanes against Mr Marcos's ruling New Society Movement in the local elections to be held on January 30, the first since the declaration of martial law in 1972.

Mr Marcos also said he had reports that the Opposition was talking of a coup. "I would like them to try a coup," he said.—UPI

Turkish lawyer shot dead by attackers

Ankara, Jan 17—The prosecutor of Ankara, in Ankara Province, was shot dead by unknown attackers last night, and two students were murdered in Istanbul. Three bombs caused damage, also in Istanbul last night.

Sources said Mr İlhan Aktar, the prosecutor, was shot several times in the back and died a short while later in a hospital.

Sixty-three people have died in Turkey's prolonged wave of political violence this year. More than 2,600 have been killed in the last two years.—Agence France-Presse.

Bombay mass arrest

Bombay, Jan 17—More than 1,500 people were arrested in Bombay last night in a drive against crime. Police said those detained included bootleggers, prostitutes and gamblers.

Troops fire at Costa Rica strikers

From Paul Rutler of Agence France-Presse San José, Jan 17—Troops opened fire on striking banana plantation workers yesterday at the Atlantic coast town of Limón as fear of communist infiltration and the threat of strike paralysis gripped Costa Rica, long considered the "Switzerland of Latin America".

At least eight people were wounded when the Civil Guard answered a barrage of stones and rounds of fire—delivered by striking banana workers—aiming low at the strikers' legs, according to senior Juan José Echaverría, the Minister of the Interior.

The decision to open fire was absolutely the right one, and will do the same again if other strikers try to stir up trouble," said Señor Echaverría, who is responsible for the 6,000-man Civil Guard. The country has no formal army.

The tough line taken by the authorities reflects the tension in this hitherto peaceful country where extremists of the right and left are accusing each other of conspiring to bring down its long-standing democratic system.

The trouble started just before Christmas, when 20,000 workers of the American-owned Standard Fruit Company called a strike in the plantations, demanding shorter working hours.

Standard Fruit gave in to most of the workers' demands, but added conditions which the strikers found unacceptable.

The shooting broke out just as some 5,000 rail workers, doctors, medical staff and other employees in Limón threatened total work stoppage if the Government failed to settle the banana plantation strike. The Costa Rican Confederation of Democratic Workers in turn threatened to launch a nationwide strike.

As Costa Rica's only real Caribbean port, Limón is the exit and entry point for trade

FOREIGN REPORT

France's non-conformist union leader



M Edmond Maire drops another brick into placid waters.

"Should Edmond Maire be burnt?" the left-wing magazine *Le Nouvel Observateur* asked recently.

The lively, questioning, non-conformist secretary-general of the leftist Confédération Française Démocratique du Travail (CFDT) had just dropped another brick into the placid waters of conventional left-wing thought. It had caused enormous ripples of self-righteous indignation.

In an interview with a provincial newspaper he had said that under present circumstances no matter who was chosen as candidate of the Left, he would be defeated.

Naturally he was accused by the Communists of deliberately choosing failure and playing into the hands of the Right; and the Socialists said he was spreading despondency. Only one Socialist leader has the courage to say that Mr Maire had only said out loud what almost everyone on the Left was thinking in secret—that so long as the Communists chose to withdraw into their political ghetto, there was no hope for the left at the polls.

This is not the first time since 1974, when he took responsibility for the second largest trade union organization in France, that M Maire has disconcerted left-wing trade unionists or politicians by his unconventional and provocative stand on the great issues of the moment. He was very enthusiastic about the now defunct Common Programme of the Left. "Anti-capitalism," he said at the time, "does not automatically produce socialism without a conscious mobilization of the workers for a socialist project."

In 1978, after the defeat of the Left in the parliamentary elections, he set in motion a "reconciling" operation of his union, designed to reemphasize the frontier between political and labour action, which had become blurred.

He was naturally accused by the Communist CGT union organization of "social democratic deviation", an ironical charge for a trade union leader always branded as a leftist in the past because he campaigned for such dangerous ideas as worker participation in management, and democracy on the shop floor.

M Maire, who is still only 49, does not fit into the accepted categories of French society, left or right. His mind is always casting about for original recipes for old problems and doctrines compounded with a sharp admixture of realism. He likes playing with new ideas, instead of keeping to well-trodden paths, but he knows when not to push them too far, even if his unruly militants do not.

Tacked him by the CFDT was regarded by the overwhelming majority of employers as far more dangerous than his Communist rival.

"Because we put the most difficult questions to the employers. We want to change the organization of work in industry, to give the workers a say in it. Most employers want the unions to confine themselves to traditional issues like wages and conditions, and not question the power

structure in plants. Worker participation is a source of great hope to the working class movement today, by contrast with the perversion of state socialism of the East, and of state capitalism in the developing countries."

But we must bring it down from the heaven of Utopia to the solid ground of reality. A concrete, very practical approach to worker participation is the best way of solving some of the problems facing modern industrial society, of promoting modern ideas of association, of shared responsibility. It does not mean workers electing their managers, or taking over the control of plants; but it does mean getting away from the traditional view that the experts do the thinking and the people do the work."

Worker participation is the key to M Maire's industrial philosophy—the word is not too pretentious in his case: he has written a couple of books about it. It boils down to the view that you cannot decree change, transform society or industrial relations only from above.

"You cannot come to grips with the present economic crisis merely through nationalizations or social measures," M Maire insists. "Nationalizations are only an instrument. They don't tell you what to do or how. You can only change society by modifying patterns of production and consumption, and international trade."

Change had to come from society itself, from associations, trades unions, parties, and not merely from leaders and institutions.

His condemnation of the nostrums of the common programme of the Left is very similar to that of M Michel Rocard, the challenger in all but name, of M François Mitterrand for the Socialist ticket in the

presidential elections. Both come from the leftist intellectual PSU. Both combine a questioning of accepted left-wing ideas with a startling degree of realism; and for this reason, both are highly suspect to the Communists and the more doctrinaire Socialists.

M Maire emphasized: "You don't change patterns of consumption or production, merely by legislation. You need a strong popular mobilization for a social project. That's why I said the Left had had it if nothing changed."

"Worker participation is a dimension of action, not a distant Utopia. I prefer to look at it as a collective movement, in which everyone has a part to play. Otherwise, it is reaching for the moon."

At present, he thought, there was a strong temptation for all left-wing parties to escape from the harsh realities of the economic crisis into ideology and verbalism, "because the type of solution called for requires the surrender of privileges and established positions. The French Left is trying to win the elections by the addition of discontents. It hopes the mistakes of the Right will insure that power falls into its lap."

"It's a very bad attitude. The Right always has alternative solutions on hand. The Left can only win by demonstrating its virtues and the relevance of its revolutionary proposals. Today, only realism is revolutionary."

Fine theories or mere anathemas were not enough. It was not enough to condemn the country's present leadership if the Left had nothing to propose instead.

In a period of crisis like the present, people were worried, and their reaction was one of conservatism. They were attracted by those who reassured them. There were very efficient forces at work in the present regime. The Left had to appreciate this and the capacity of Frenchmen to grasp economic problems. It was not enough to speak of the "noble and generous left", in the style of the Third Republic, to assure people that wages and the standard of living would go up.

The Left must have a strategy for the reorganization of the textile and steel and shipbuilding industries, for the future of the South-west (threatened by Spain's entry into the EEC), for the development of exports. For instance, in the case of steel, the CFDT acknowledged that all existing jobs could not be preserved, and all production units kept going.

The "reconciling" of the CFDT policy meant a break with the line followed until 1978, when the unions were in a row of political parties and hoped to achieve their aims by the Left's victory at the polls. It meant putting trade union logic at the centre of the labour movement again. The unions must act today, for results today in stopping unemployment—not in 1981 or 1983. "Reconciling means reorganizing trade union action to take into account the realities of today's economic situation," he declared.

Charles Hargrove

Population in Asia's giants: Indonesia

Staggering cost of transmigration

To look at the map, Indonesia does not appear to have much of a population problem. Certainly the total population of the archipelago is some 140 million, but with the people spread over 13,677 islands, running 3,000 miles from west to east, one would imagine that land would not be lacking. To a large extent this is so.

Indeed, over the past five years the rate of population growth has fallen from 3 per cent in 1975 to about the 2 per cent mark. In 1976, it was 1.98 per cent, in 1977 2.02 per cent and last year it fell to 1.9 per cent. This year the figure is expected to be 2 per cent, a figure which the Government plans to hold to until at least 1981.

Indonesia's birth control programme has been among the most successful in the Third World as these population figures show. Other Third World countries, such as Bangladesh, have sent teams to study Jakarta's methods.

The statistics of the programme, started 10 years ago in Java and Bali, are impressive, indicating an average 15-18 per cent reduction in births over the period. Of the 25 million fertile women, 70 per cent used the contraceptive pill, which young women start at the age of 15.

Though the map shows an enormous spread of land, it cannot show Indonesia's real population problem: there is a high concentration of population in certain areas, with almost deserted areas in other parts of the country.

The problem is that Java attracts Indonesians from all over the republic. It is far and away the most highly developed area.

It is considered the heart of Indonesia, but it is a heart that is being seriously overworked. In 1976, Java was supporting 62 per cent of the country's population on only 6.6 per cent of the land area. This was well over the 70 million population that the island can support, according to Government projections.

The Indonesian answer to the problem is transmigration, a far-reaching and controversial solution. The idea of population transfer in Indonesia is far from new. The Dutch tried it in 1905, but for imperialist economic reasons rather than population pressures, when they moved Javanese to southern Sumatra to work.

The Indonesians took up the idea in 1956, when a vast programme to resettle 40,000 people under a five-year programme. But the project was ill-planned and ill-executed. There was

practically no preparation. Families and individuals were shipped off to outlying areas, which were often virtually virgin territory, and expected to make a go out of it with limited resources. Not surprisingly, the failure rate was high.

Now the picture is different. There is extensive assistance from the United Nations and the developed countries in the surveying and preparation of sites. The West Germans are helping in Kalimantan, the Americans and the Dutch in Celebes, and there is also an EEC project. The British and the Dutch are giving assistance in Sumatra.

Foreign investment has been brisk. Between 1958 and the end of last year a start has been made on 2,861 domestic investment projects and 795 foreign investment schemes, providing jobs in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hotels. At present, Britain is involved in 43 projects worth nearly £50m, while Japan is top of the league of foreign investors with holdings worth over £1,000m.

The Indonesian are working hard at interesting foreign investors in other projects which will back up their transmigration policies.

The third stage of Java's transmigration, code-named Repelita III, began last year and will run for five years at a cost of £110m. It is a staggering undertaking which will involve the

resettlement of 2,500,000 people away from the Java population centres.

"I feel like Eisenhower before D-Day," Mr Harun Zain, the Minister of Manpower and Transmigration, said. He has just taken over the ministry from north Sumatran, he typifies the dynamic go-getters from that island, who hold many important posts in Indonesia.

The authorities work on the basis that an average family consists of five people and calculate that the cost of resettling such a family at £2,200.

This figure includes the cost of essential infrastructure, such as simple housing, roads, bridges and the clearing of virgin land, so that the newcomers can start straight away to cultivate crops and make the family self-supporting on the two hectares of land that are allocated. There is financial support from the Government until each unit is able to support itself.

Despite the more enlightened approach to resettlement now evident, the programme is not without its critics. But it is hard to fault the Government's contention that transmigration should contribute to what it sees as one of its primary duties—the unification of Indonesia's multifarious peoples and islands.

David Watts

Nuclear bomb tests rose to 53 last year

Stockholm, Jan 17—Fifty-three nuclear bomb tests were conducted last year, five more than in 1978, the Swedish military observatory at Hagfors said in its annual report today.

The Soviet Union carried out 28 tests, one more than in 1978, and the United States 15 (five more). Of the remainder France had nine at its testing facility—Mourouva—before and Britain one, using the American facilities in Nevada.

For the first time in the decade China exploded no bombs compared to three in 1978, the observatory said. Since 1970 a total of 421 tests has been registered, of which 191 were Soviet, 154 American, 55 French, 15 Chinese, five British and one Indian.

Out of the total of 1,218 tests since the first one at Los Alamos, New Mexico, on July 16, 1945, more than half, 651, were conducted by the United States.—Agence France-Presse.

Bangladesh study

Dacca, Jan 17—Sir David McNea, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, has arrived in Dacca on a week's visit to Bangladesh to study community problems. He will tour some of the home areas of the 130,000 to 150,000 Bangladeshis settled in Britain.

Cholera in Zambia

Lusaka, Jan 17—Cholera has killed 21 people in two weeks in the Kaputa district near the Zaire border in Zambia's northern province.

Deserting Vietnam troops captured in Thailand

From Our Correspondent Bangkok, Jan 17

Thai forces have captured four more Vietnamese soldiers who appear to be deserting from their army in Kampuchea, a supreme command spokesman said today.

The Vietnamese who claimed to be armymen were armed with automatic rifles when captured in Chantaburi Province, 170 miles south-east of Bangkok.

A few hours later Thai marines further south captured

68 heavily-armed Khmer Rouge guerrillas in Trat Province.

The Thai authorities say more than 50 Vietnamese soldiers have deserted in the past six months.

Refugee officials reported today a new influx of Vietnamese boat refugees. They said more than 100 had landed on Thailand's south-east coast in the past 48 hours. Favourable weather in the South China Sea appeared to have prompted their escape from Vietnam.

Troops fire at Costa Rica strikers

From Paul Rutler of Agence France-Presse San José, Jan 17—Troops opened fire on striking banana plantation workers yesterday at the Atlantic coast town of Limón as fear of communist infiltration and the threat of strike paralysis gripped Costa Rica, long considered the "Switzerland of Latin America".

At least eight people were wounded when the Civil Guard answered a barrage of stones and rounds of fire—delivered by striking banana workers—aiming low at the strikers' legs, according to senior Juan José Echaverría, the Minister of the Interior.

The decision to open fire was absolutely the right one, and will do the same again if other strikers try to stir up trouble," said Señor Echaverría, who is responsible for the 6,000-man Civil Guard. The country has no formal army.

The tough line taken by the authorities reflects the tension in this hitherto peaceful country

where extremists of the right and left are accusing each other of conspiring to bring down its long-standing democratic system.

The trouble started just before Christmas, when 20,000 workers of the American-owned Standard Fruit Company called a strike in the plantations, demanding shorter working hours.

Standard Fruit gave in to most of the workers' demands, but added conditions which the strikers found unacceptable.

The shooting broke out just as some 5,000 rail workers, doctors, medical staff and other employees in Limón threatened total work stoppage if the Government failed to settle the banana plantation strike. The Costa Rican Confederation of Democratic Workers in turn threatened to launch a nationwide strike.

As Costa Rica's only real Caribbean port, Limón is the exit and entry point for trade

with Europe and the main terminal for imported oil.

President Carazo Odio recently accused local communists of "playing Moscow's game." He had expelled two Soviet diplomats blaming them for a strike in Limón last summer.

Earlier this week the Costa Rican authorities announced the expulsion of "communist agitators"—three Cubans, a Bulgarian, a Yugoslav, and a citizen of El Salvador—and arrested 120 strikers.

The fear of communism has been roused here by the upheavals in Central America in the past year, which has seen the overthrow of Costa Rica's ally, the Somoza dictatorship in Nicaragua, the threat of civil war in El Salvador, and renewed activity by extreme leftist guerrillas in Guatemala.

Prensa Libre, however, published a public opinion poll yesterday reporting that "despite everything, life is peaceful and happy for Costa Ricans."

Food Report

Threat from 'young' producers

It used to be said that developed countries would buy raw materials from the less developed, process them into finished goods and sell them back. The idea applied to food as much as to other goods. Britain, the theory had it, would buy rice from its colonies and dominions, and sell tinned rice pudding to them.

The theory worked well in the years of empire, and still applies today. Some of the tea bought by British companies is graded, tasted and packed in Britain and then sold in tea-producing countries.

The flaw in the theory was that it did not permit developing countries to catch up with the developed. In its most primitive form it did not allow for the producers of rice to advance to the processing of their own rice pudding.

All is now changing, and a new species, the newly industrialized country, known as NIC, has been added to the vocabulary of the science of social progress. The world was once divided neatly by analysts into developed countries, like those of Western Europe and North America, and developing or less developed countries, like those of South America and those of Africa.

Those two categories remain, but they have been joined by NICs. They are countries like Singapore, South Korea and Mexico, where industrial advance has been so fast that they threaten the much older manufacturing sectors of Europe and North America.

The NICs are the key to a new world economic order for food in the opinion of Dr Albert Simantov, director of food and agriculture for the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris. The organization promotes the growth of world trade and of the economies of its member countries all of which are in the West.

Dr Simantov outlined his ideas early this month in a paper so important that it was almost universally ignored. The attention of delegates was attracted by more paradoxical issues like the green pound and the price of land.

Dr Simantov believed that the traditional economic order should be reversed. The rapid growth of population outside developed countries and their demand for a better and more varied diet meant that the developing world could no longer export food. Most food avail-

able for export was now produced in the developed countries, notably the United States, Canada, France and Australia.

"Japan has become the United Kingdom of the twentieth century in the Far East," Dr Simantov said. My expansion is that the growth in Japanese consumption in Japan will be shared equally between home producers and overseas suppliers."

He expected Japanese import demand to be aimed mainly at soybeans and grain for livestock feed. North America is the main supplier of both in world trade. He did not see much scope for sales in Japan of the foods for which the EEC suffers its most expensive and embarrassing surpluses.

"Some of you may be surprised to hear that even Japan has had surpluses of milk," he added.

"There is no reason for the livestock economy of the USSR not to become more efficient. I would not be surprised to see the USSR becoming again a marginal exporter of cereals. As for China, if it increases its consumption to those of Japan or South Korea, that would make a tremendous increase. But the Chinese economy is not in a position to finance the necessary import of feedgrains."

He also saw limited increases in food imports by oil-producing states, because they had so little fertile land. The greatest increase in demand for food would come from the NICs, he believed.

"We know what rapid industrialization means," he said.

"There is a period in that process when agriculture in the country concerned cannot satisfy the food requirement. Cereal imports by South Korea are now bigger than those of India."

Dr Simantov believes that a new order was needed to make nations more self-sufficient, but he stressed that moves in that direction would be hindered by protection of antiquated industries by developed countries.

He saw little hope for the developed countries would buy manufactured goods from the NICs and thereby allow them to meet the growing dietary demands of their peoples. "We shall have to accept imports of industrial goods from those countries," Dr Simantov said.

"But I am not very hopeful that the NICs will be allowed to export substantially to our markets. They will therefore not be able to buy food from the West and will have to set up high-cost food industries of their own."

There are some signs of progress towards his new order, however. A glance at the labels on television sets and tape recorders in British shops will show that we do buy from NICs goods that would once have been made in Europe. On the other hand, the coin, the Royal Agricultural Society of Britain is about to send a small team to Mexico to promote the Royal Show as the ideal international market place for Mexico's urgent agricultural needs."

Hugh Clayton

Capturing the music of the sphinx

Kate Nelligan as Caroline

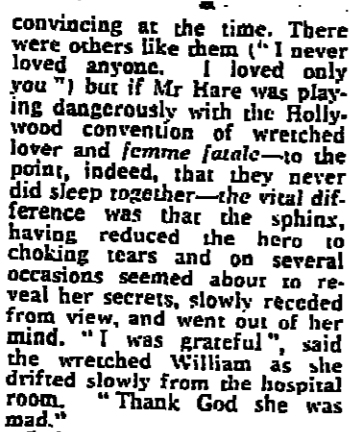
Dreams of Leaving
BBC 1

Michael Ratcliffe

William (Bill Nighy) was an ordinary provincial journalist who came to London in 1971 in search of a job and a plentiful supply of birds. He found both. "I don't want to be nostalgic," he warned us at the start of *Dreams of Leaving*. "After all, this is only nine years ago." But the tormenting events he described might have been taking place on another galaxy—for all the resemblance they bore to his conventionally permissive marriage today.

Caroline was a prize-winning photographer. She worked in a smart, rapacious gallery, then for a rock-group. She could also dance well. Her mother's family was Russian and was celebrated at the Savoy in the twenties for eating its food so noisily that it was asked to take its meals behind a screen. She was what the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood would have called a stunner; she was promiscuous, and she was a sphinx. "I love more than anything to make love to strangers," she told William darkly as she undressed. "It makes me forget who I am." The phone rang.

Not the least of Kate Nelligan's exceptional abilities is the talent to fill lines like that with intelligence and feeling and make them sound original and



convincing at the time. There were others like her who loved anyone. "I loved only you," but if Mr Hare was playing dangerously with the Hollywood convention of wretched lover and femme fatale—to the point, indeed, that they never did sleep together—the vital difference was that the sphinx, having reduced the hero to choking tears and on several occasions seemed about to reveal her secrets, slowly receded from view, and went out of her mind. "I was grateful," said the wretched William as she drifted slowly from the hospital room. "Thank God she was mad."

The Hindsight Saga
Riverside Studios

Ned Chaillet

They call it the "anecdote," that stage of a career or a life when a man or a woman lives on reminiscences. When a man's achievements have been matched stage by stage in his career with anecdotes that have been passed around whenever his name is mentioned, he could perhaps avoid that descent into jokes and stories that is a substitute for new adventures.

Sir Bernard Miles has instead embraced his anecdote with a programme of recollections that he calls *The Hindsight Saga*. It is at times a simple autobiographical display, with slides of his childhood and songs from Sunday school that he encourages the audience to sing. Other moments provide a gently comic display of his skills at mimicry, as he conjures up a picture of a canny and vaguely illiterate countryman.

His founding of the Mermaid Theatre in Blackfriars is perhaps the single event in his

life that still gives him name currency. In his programme, which he chooses to call "Pages from my life, a sort of personal jumble-sale," he emphasises the Mermaid's history. It is "nice to be informative," he says. "I can't be funny all the time."

He is as good as his word about not being funny all the time, and his recollections of the Mermaid's construction and demolition, and the proposed reopening in 1981, is dry. There are other recollections that pass without humour, including pictures of his dining-room and back garden where his intent is elegy. Still, it is the humour that saves him several times, though I have laughed more at other stories of his life than the ones he chose to tell at Riverside.

The performance by Sir Bernard is an attempt at autobiography in the form he knows best. It shifts from the nearly madman to sentimental rural comedy suggest that it is an honest display, and as such it is meant for those who have wanted to know him better. Others may find themselves restless in the darkened auditorium.

Leipzig plans to visit Sadler's Wells

The first visit to London by an opera company from East Germany, the Leipzig Opera, is among the planned events for this year's programme at the Sadler's Wells Theatre, announced this week. Negotiations for the visit in June are still being completed, but Handel's *Xerxes* and Mozart's *Così fan tutte* are the operas planned.

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Australian cinema: simple virtues, natural blessings

My Brilliant Career

(U)

Screen on the Hill

(from January 24)

The Swissmakers (A)

Paris Pullman

The Movie

Newspaper film critics have been going too soft on Australian films, according to the *Pravda* of orthodox good taste in film, *Sight and Sound*. Well, perhaps the renaissance in Australian film-making in the last 10 years was sometimes greeted with overgenerous enthusiasm, but there were very few other film movements during the Seventies of such consistent quality.

When original, as with Philip Noyce's *Newsfront* or Donald Crombie's *Caddie*, Australian films were often the most stimulating around. But for every one of those there were several humdrum efforts. They were usually set in the past, making easy use of the bewitching Australian landscape, kept on the straight and narrow of narrative cinema and always progressed chronologically. Peter Weir's *Picnic at Hanging Rock* set a standard to match but his competitors rarely attained it.

In such a context, it is with some hesitation that I commend *My Brilliant Career*, a first feature from Gill Armstrong. Like most Australian films, it is a costume drama, set in 1897, which starts at the beginning and ends at the end and uses to the full the natural benefits of the Australian light and countryside. It is, none the less, an extraordinary debut and a gifted piece of film-making.

Taken from Miles Franklin's novel, it relates the noble and humorous emergence of an independent woman, Sybilla, in an age when women were considered little more than men's playthings. In one brief scene, as her father rolls over in bed before sleep, we are told the root of Sybilla's social rebellion. She is the product of a marriage between a precocious farmer and a well-to-do woman who married, for love, well beneath her social level.

Sybilla, with a foot in either class, learns to take the best from both worlds. From her



Judy Davis as Sybilla in *My Brilliant Career*.....

maternal grandmother, with whom she stays, she acquires the easy grace of a well brought-up girl and a discerning eye for the good things of life. From her father and her home circumstances, she has learnt that women need not be like caged birds and that often more fun is to be had among the lower orders.

Part of the quiet power of the film comes from the acting of Judy Davis, who gives Sybilla a lively, sparkling intelligence and a robust, insolent sense of purpose. But equally important to the creation of this rounded, sympathetic portrait of a precocious feminist are the skills of social observation and the sensitivity of the production team. Although both the fine photography, by Don McAlpine, and the editing were by men, Gill

Armstrong leads a preponderantly female credits list and their influence shows through.

Only rare male directors, like Max Ophüls, have cultivated a real interest in presenting women as sexual protagonists. Most dominant female roles have been created in response to the box office's need to show certain actresses, such as Bette Davis, Katherine Hepburn or Greer Garbo, in control of events. *My Brilliant Career* does not stem from that commercial tokenism but from a desire to tell a good, personal story about a woman.

Even when following a standard Hollywood cliché of female behaviour, with Sybilla stalking out of a grand ball because her lover danced with another, the motives are different. By joining the servants and the hands in the marquee

on the lawn, Sybilla is making a deliberate social point: women are happier out of the stuffy male preserves of polite Victorian society, among the relaxed and more equal sexual climate of the working class.

The ending, too, avoids the obvious solutions to a story of conflicting wills. Although begged to marry by a rich man, who accepts and understands her as an independent woman, she reluctantly turns him away, saying that she has only just begun to break out of the straitjacket of social norms and that it is too early to settle down to a conventional life just yet. As the final credits roll, Sybilla is standing looking over a five-bar gate, having slipped the manuscript for *My Brilliant Career* into the rustic, makeshift post box.

Racial inequality is the theme of Rolf Lyssy's *The Swissmakers*, an unlikely comedy about the erratic progress of three people towards becoming Swiss nationals. To become Swiss, apparently, you cannot just show a willingness to obey their laws and have a little money in the bank. You must become a model Swiss citizen, with a proper savings book, the exact pronunciation, a thorough knowledge of Swiss history, the correct, unexciting political beliefs, a Swiss palate and a fervent passion for Switzerland.

Excellent character references are also required and, to collect the appropriate information, the Swiss have a special corps of investigators: a job which demands the instincts of a social security snooper and the thick skin of a traffic warden. And it is

around a member of this thought and behaviour police that the comedy is based.

Max Bodmer (Walo Lüthi) is an eager servant who can, without shame or embarrassment, inflict his company on would-be Swiss and judge them against his own ignorance, like all natural censors, he is a man of little imagination with which he has built up a substantial stock of mean, reactionary ideas. Laughing at this small man, showing himself up for the cretin that he is, makes fair comedy. But if the film is seriously intended to expose a thoroughly nasty system, and the sort of personnel it attracts, then the humour should have jumped off the fence more often and faced the ugliness full on.

The Movie is a weekly magazine which, if kept, builds into a history of the cinema. To judge from the first six issues, the intention seems to be to present clear, factual, readable accounts of the films, the stars, the directors and the studios. For this it must be welcomed. There has been an upsurge of interest in the history of the cinema, largely stoked, I suspect, by the pride of place given to old films on television. If *The Movie* encourages a more critical assessment of these films, it will be doing a good service.

The magazines are lavishly illustrated and include contributions from some very distinguished names, including our own David Robinson, who is the magazine's consultant editor. At the moment *The Movie* is marching through the familiar story of the coming of sound and we are on safe territory. There is very little room for argument here and, for many movie buffs, the magazine will only reinforce what they already know.

As time goes by, however, we will be reaching more uncertain ground, as we come closer to the present day—and which may seem strange—as we dig back through the history of the silent era which was so quickly buried and dismissed after *The Jazz Singer* made the art redundant. It is then that *The Movie* can be expected to be more controversial and will deserve more constructive criticism.

Nicholas Wapshott

David Robinson is at the Indian Film Festival in Bangalore.

Arena

BBC 2

Joan Bakewell

Those who lived through the holocaust of *Mainstream* can sleep soundly once again. *Arena* has arrived, not a moment too soon, to salvage the BBC's music and arts from death by a thousand paper darts. This opener to the new series was a fine and flamboyant way to restore faith in a single topic programme. Not only did the subject—the profile of the British architect Richard Rogers—never fail, it was so skilfully unfolded that in just 35 minutes you learnt, and easily, a whole lot about the man.

Richard Rogers and Renzo Piano created the Beaubourg Arts Centre in Paris, better known among bookers as the Pompidou Centre. You could say they have turned architecture on its head, if they had not so evidently turned it inside out. Plumbing, electric, lifts, escalators, all criss-cross the exterior in a colourful filigree of pipes and tubes. The young seem to love it, and flock there in droves to perform, watch, stroll, stare, enjoy. All very Parisian, I have seen the future and it plays.

BBCSO/Pritchard

St John's

Paul Griffiths

Rescuing forgotten British music is becoming quite a feature of the BBC's "Sacred and Profane" series at St John's, as well as presenting various programmes under that name too extensive title. Wednesday, with no chorus to carry the religious burden, John Pritchard and the BBC Symphony Orchestra offered two seldom-heard memorials representing the sombre: Ravennah's *Elegiac Rhapsody* for Macneil and the Little Symphony which Alexander Goehr composed as a tribute to his father.

The Rawsthorne piece, played by a modest string orchestra, benefited from church acoustics which were made all the more reverberant by the unfortunate smallness of the audience, and which cast a veil of wistful sadness over the light dancing grace that Mr Pritchard fittingly brought out. If the work was designed as a homage to a poet's deftness, it seemed here to speak also of its composer's clarity and seriousness of purpose in fulfilling a minor master's role.

Goehr's *Little Symphony*, despite its title, is much more ambitious. The very slow first movement consists only of an epitaph for strings in five short phrases, but this then becomes the subject of a wide-ranging symphonic discourse whose elegance and tautness were prominently displayed in this performance.

Mr Pritchard succinctly emphasized the diversity of character among the variations which make up the second movement, but the contrasts were balanced in a way that lent drive to the argument. The third movement, much too elaborately worked to be called a scherzo, was kept from appearing insistently thematic and the finale was a fully coherent if circuitous return to the music of the opening. Undoubtedly the resonating space again helped in proving the resilience of this work, written to be played in York Minster.

However, the "churchy" sound only underlined what is offensively knowing in Britten's *Serenade*, though the piece was saved by the freshness and the ringing appeal of Ryland Davies, who obliged one to accept his lyrical offerings as innocent of irony.

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They were all relevantly introduced by the singers and pianist to general laughter when two of the sexiest Wolf! Mörike songs were contrasted with outbursts of British moral fervour in that year. The American tenor Robert White was a useful guest, in both speech and song, likewise Jill Gomez though words are not supreme in her singing, and her soft top notes tend to flutter. Richard Jackson, their baritone, was a lively form, likewise Mr Johnson—Song makers' Almanac are never disappointing.

Songmakers' Almanac

Purcell Room

William Mann

A prime merit of this brilliantly accomplished concert-party, now some four years old, is his combination of excellent entertainment with high artistic seriousness. Success has not tempted the Almanac away from their South Bank home in the little Purcell Room. They sell it out every time, but are evidently aware that in a larger hall they would not convey the same atmosphere of Schubertian intimacy, nor be able to read the linking commentary (shared between them) so naturally, without raising their voices. Quite soon they may have to give each programme more than once in the Purcell Room, to satisfy the number of regular customers; meanwhile one hopes that they are finding equally sympathetic halls elsewhere in which to repeat the most original and satisfying of their recitals.

A typical example was Wednesday's "Portrait of a Year"—not 1880, which any of us might have thought appropriate, but 1888, the year in which Hugo Wolf composed his first three discable collections of masterpieces, an achievement which my predecessor Harry Colles dubbed "The Poetic Supremacy Act of 1888". After that, composers of song had to respect poetry, or set, or be deemed vandals. In this musical portrait the Almanac's pianist and moving spirit, Graham Johnson, contrasted some of the 1888 Wolf songs with others of the same year, as well as contemporary writings.

In 1888 the Eiffel Tower was being built, Kaiser Wilhelm II came to the German throne, *Punch* began to serialize *The Diary of a Nobody*, Edison invented the phonograph. Also invented were the safety-pin, the electric kettle, and the Kodak box-camera.

In France Debussy produced the magnificent *Ariettes oubliées*, Godard his *Jocelyn* (the famous "Berceuse" was included). Reynold Han, aged 13, composed his best-known song, "Si mes vers", and Fauré his "Cimetières" (an eloquent performance by Sarah Walker). Wolf's songs were set against these, and against some by Tchaikovsky and Brahms (object of Wolf's hatred) and young Richard Strauss, as well as Ethelbert Nevin and Molloy whose "Our Last Waltz" has insidious refrain, worthy of Millocker, say.

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Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

Just what takes Irving's fancy

On two successive Thursdays this month, first at a benefit preview, then at the official premiere, Robert Irving will raise his baton in the orchestra pit at New York State Theatre to unleash a set of historic soundtracks: the arresting first chords of *Fancy Free*. Doubly historic, because 36 years ago they marked the beginning of the great partnership between Leonard Bernstein's music and Jerome Robbins's choreography, and because now they represent a kind of challenge, as New York City Ballet takes up a work that has hitherto been almost a trademark for American Ballet Theatre.

Irving is primarily a New Yorker nowadays, although still a very English one. Happily, however, the baton of his head has once again become a familiar sight in the Covent Garden orchestra pit on ballet nights, thanks to guest engagements with the Royal Ballet this season and last, as well as New York City Ballet's exhilarating season there last September.

When we met before one of his latest performances, he was looking forward to conducting *Fancy Free*, not only for its own sake but also, characteristically, because "we have a number of young dancers now who will do it very well, I think". He had some kind words, too, about this paper's enforced silence during the September season, which prompted me to ask whether he agreed with the opinion, expressed by some of the New York critics, that London audiences had failed to understand or enjoy New York City Ballet and its works.

"No", he replied, "my impression was that a lot of nice, intelligent, unbiased people were getting much interest and pleasure from the season. Some of the programmes were not exactly easy for people unused to the company: the Stravinsky night, for instance, which began with a group of rather severe and uncompromising ballets; but audiences seemed prepared to concentrate and they responded well."

I wondered how he enjoyed coming back to conduct the Tchaikovsky full-length classics after the very different repertory in New York, with its varied styles but generally ambitious standards. "It is certainly more difficult to conduct *The Sleeping Beauty*, as I did last season for the new production, or the new *Swan Lake* now, than to go into the pit and conduct a triple bill of short ballets, which really present few problems to me."

There are questions of balance to be maintained through the evening. Of course, I remember the work from years ago when I was here, and when it came to preparing *Swan Lake* this season I found a number of changes which had come to be accepted from what I had known in the past. There were certain things I always remembered and cared about, and I had to decide when to stand out for them and when to be prepared to accept change."

Hard work it may be, but Irving makes it clear that he enjoyed returning to the Royal Ballet, where he began his bal-



let career, as much as they and their audiences liked welcoming him. But it was not always easy to accept engagements away from New York City Ballet: even between Susan Lake dates in London he went back to conduct performances of *Nutcracker* there.

"I find that as I grow older I grow more like Dame Ninette; I am not very good at delegating", he said. "And nowadays, the company works increasingly hard. We have grown to be completely accepted, artistically, socially and economically, in New York, and the company has taken its rightful place in society. So there are long seasons at State Theatre, and our regular summer season at Saratoga Springs, which is a delightful place to perform. In addition, we have undertaken seasons in other large cities, sometimes in association with the local symphony orchestra, which is an important part of our responsibility."

"Then during 1980 we shall be performing a great deal in Europe. Copenhagen has been eager to have us back again and we shall be performing there for two weeks; then we are going to Berlin, and Paris, where they want us for three weeks."

Although thoroughly at home nowadays in New York, Irving remains staunchly English in speech and manner. I asked him why it might be that several British conductors, specializing in ballet, including himself, had gone to work abroad. Was it the repertory that tempted them, the working conditions, or where they work, and has his own strong views on how it should be done, and has wanted to stage it but that was never practical. I think that really would be interesting."

Imperial during one of New York City Ballet's early seasons. So when I was offered a permanent job with his company I had no hesitation. The chief attraction to work with a choreographer who is a complete musician himself, who knows exactly what is needed.

"Also, it is not easy to work with an orchestra that has to play for opera and ballet. I am not in any way denigrating the Covent Garden Orchestra, who are very good, but their prime concern is with the opera. In ballet, you need to be able to adjust immediately to anything unexpected happening on stage; it is a different kind of response from what is required in opera. That is something I find with our orchestra in New York who play all the time for ballet."

"One pleasure I have experienced lately is my relationship with the young dancers. It's not like a father and child relationship, more like grandfather and grandchild, so there is no problem of a generation gap, and I find that now I am much closer to them and they feel able to come to me with their problems."

As we were meeting close to the season of goodwills of gifts and fine intentions, I thought of asking Irving what he would choose if he could have just one professional wish granted a good fairy. "Oh dear, that is difficult", he said, and had to think for a while before finding the answer. "Do you know, I think what I would most like, given the resources for it, would be to have Balanchine produce *The Sleeping Beauty*. He knows and understands the work, and has his own strong views on how it should be done, and has wanted to stage it but that was never practical. I think that really would be interesting."

John Percival

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Afghanistan: assessing Soviet strategy and military might

How Russia could swiftly move in fresh troops

The news from Afghanistan has been bad for everyone except arguably for western military intelligence officers who, contrary to popular belief, detected the first signs of Soviet mobilization several months before the Christmas coup. Moreover the operation has gone according to plan—a Soviet plan, maybe, but at least one whose basic pattern has long been understood in the West.

In that sense the Afghan crisis has been an exercise for NATO intelligence techniques and analytical skills, and a vindication of them. Specialists whose job it is to assess the likely pattern of any Soviet offensive against the West will not at least have to return to the drawing board.

Intelligence reports of Soviet activity began to filter through even before the late President Hafizullah Amin seized power last September. Some analysts point to an even more long-standing Russian aim to install Babrak Karmal, whose relationship to the Kremlin resembles that of a dummy to a ventriloquist. But it is doubtful if the Soviet intervention would have been as dramatic without the growing unrest in Afghanistan and the parallel collapse of western investment in Iran.

Reports that Mr Brezhnev opposed the Afghan operation are meanwhile being discounted as the indirect outcome of Soviet propaganda designed to preserve his reputation as the apostle of détente. Analysts believe that the Kremlin drew up a "worst-case" scenario which took into account both an embargo on American grain and a threat to the Moscow Olympics—and placed its faith in the success of a "cool it" public relations exercise in the spring.

Militarily there is certainly no doubt that the Russians fore-see the Afghan adventure as a limited operation which would

impose little upon the overall strength of their military machine. So far little has emerged to dent their confidence.

The Red Army is nearly 2,000,000 strong, and about two men out of three are conscripts serving for two years. With a turnover of 5,000,000 or so conscripts every five years, all of whom belong to various categories of the reserves until the age of 50, the overall size could be more than trebled within a week of mobilization.

Those serving help to form about 173 divisions, according to the International Institute for Strategic Studies (other estimates vary marginally). 47 of which are armoured divisions, with 11,000 in each. 118 are so-called motor rifle divisions with 13,000 and eight are airborne divisions with 7,000. Of these, some 31 divisions are based in Eastern Europe, in East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary, while the rest are stationed throughout the military districts of the Soviet Union itself, including 46 near the Chinese border.

Not all these are up to strength on a continuous basis. Some, including all those in Eastern Europe, are Category A divisions which are kept in a state of combat readiness, or only slightly below that. Others are Category B which are only at half-strength and the rest are Category C which are at one-quarter strength and are little more than cadre formations, relying upon the mobilization of reserves to make them ready for war. This can be done quite quickly.

NATO's worst-case estimates are that Category A divisions can be brought up to strength in 24 hours, Category B in 72 hours—and the Afghan operation has largely confirmed these estimates.

For the Afghan operation the



Russian troops pose beside an armoured vehicle on the outskirts of Kabul.

Western military intelligence officers detected the first signs of Soviet mobilization several months before the coup

Russians used only units from the 24 or so divisions in what is loosely described as the southern districts of the USSR, although the invasion was under the command of a Moscow-based general who is now in Kabul. Most of the divisions are Category C motor rifle divisions, locally reinforced by rapid mobilization of reserves. Spearheading the invasion was the 105th Guards Airborne division from Eastern Uzbekistan, a Category A unit which was airlifted to Kabul by a fleet of Ilushin-76, Antonov-12 and giant Antonov-22 freighters belonging to the 1,200-strong Air Transport Command. Each A-22 is capable of lifting a T-62 tank.

Together with the 105th in Afghanistan there are now two motor rifle divisions, and a variety of assorted smaller units. Intelligence sources discount press reports of five or even seven full divisions in the country and also believe that estimates of between 80,000 and 100,000 troops are an exaggeration. The total number in Afghanistan is believed to be nearer to 50,000, although other units are mobilized near the Afghan border.

These additional troops could be introduced to the country in the next few weeks—and will

probably be needed if the Russians switch to a concentrated offensive against Afghan tribesmen in the mountains. At present Soviet forces are being used mainly in support of Afghanistan's own forces in counter-strikes following assaults by tribesmen on Soviet supply lines.

Such an offensive could be launched in the spring as the

weather improves, unless the Russians decide that it would be wiser to concentrate upon the restoration of relations with the West and the Third World. Certainly at present their objective would seem to be to consolidate their control of key towns and communications while encouraging a return to more-or-less normal life in the country.

Few observers think that they have much chance of eliminating insurgency among the hill-men, and that their only realistic aim must be to bring down the violence to an "acceptable level"—a phrase well known to the Army in Northern Ireland.

How long this might take is itself a matter for speculation. Strictly speaking, the reservists who have been recalled to reinforce the units now in Afghanistan are subject to only three months' service in any one year—except during a state of national emergency. Most were mobilized within a few weeks of the Christmas coup and were probably given a short reinforcement to the military arts before being dispatched over the frontier. Will the Soviet Army keep to the rules and rotate them when their three months tour is ended, say, March?

Although MIG-21s and MIG-23s have been involved in air strikes

to support the Red Army—as have the army's own armoured Hind helicopters—the equipment used has been standard Russian issue with little sign of the most modern weapons. Tanks ferried into the country have been T-62s and even T-54/55s with no confirmed sightings of the latest T-72s—despite press reports. Many of the "soft-skinned" vehicles have been civilian trucks, which is normal Russian practice in wartime.

Intelligence sources are drawing the inference that the Russians are treating the Afghan operation as regional adventure and an example to vassal states which might be tempted by Islamic or liberal inclinations to reverse the process of Marxist revolution.

Success in consolidating its position in Afghanistan could, however, tempt the Russians to try it again in a few years' time, should the opportunity present itself. It is unbelievable that the Russians could now contemplate a premature withdrawal from Kabul. But it is also debatable whether the West can contemplate a speedy return to normal relations, leaving the Russians firmly in charge there.

Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

Geoffrey Smith

The battle Labour's right must fight

"If we are in business for anything, it is to change and you only do that by trying". This sentence from the first instalment of Mrs Barbara Castle's diaries in the *Sunday Times* is characteristic of much thinking in the Labour Party and points indirectly to one of the principal difficulties now being experienced by the right wing. The week has been dominated by the party's standpoint, by disclosures of the infiltration practised by the Militant Tendency. This and other extremist movements present a double challenge, of organization and of policy.

Much has been heard of the danger that unrepresentative groups may take over the party organization, and of the need to counter this threat by mobilizing the strength of the right and centre more effectively. But within the Labour Party are always fought in terms of policy as well as organization simply because there are so many people who joined the party in order to change things. A self-consciously radical party must by its very nature attach special importance to policy.

So what does the right have to offer today to put against the policies not just of the Militant Tendency but of the William Rodger calls the legitimate left? Essentially managerial competence, which is very necessary in government but not very exciting in opposition.

I have suggested in the past that the Labour Party really has two right wings, the managerial right and the right wing of ideas. But this second wing is in decline. There are a number of reasons for this. One is that a number of its most stimulating figures have left active politics. Anthony Crosland is dead. Mr Roy Jenkins is in Brussels, and he made it clear in his Dimsdale Lecture that if he does return to British politics it will not be in the ranks of the Labour Party. Mr Brian Walden has gone to television. John Mackintosh is dead and Mr David Marquand has made his way to academia by way of Brussels.

A second reason is that Crosland's revisionism which provided the philosophical base for a generation of right-wingers has been outmoded by events. The principal theme of this doctrine, which was set out most fully in *The Future of Socialism* in 1956, was that the purpose of socialists should be to bring about greater equality in the broadest sense, economic and social, by means of ambitious government programmes and the redistribution of income. Public ownership was to be no more, than one, not particularly favoured, method of achieving this end.

The trouble with this doctrine was that it assumed a high rate of growth. Without that the strategy was bound to fail, as Crosland himself acknowledged in his essay, *Socialism Now* in 1973. If the resources required "cannot come from the fruits of rapid growth, they must come from higher taxation of existing incomes. But higher indirect taxes put up prices, higher direct taxes reduce the incentive to work for higher money wages and salaries. In our slow-growth economy the shift of resources away from personal consumption has harshly exacerbated the problem of inflation."

These words have gained added force since Crosland wrote. His prescription can hardly seem relevant at a time of negative growth, public expenditure cuts and dropping expectations. Yet Labour right-wingers have yet to replace it with anything of comparable substance. Instead they have become a group of the anti-left and of efficient management. This is scarcely surprising if one considers how much of their time and energy in recent years has been taken up in repelling the attacks of the left and in the care of office.

When Sir Harold Wilson decided that he wanted to make Labour the natural governing party he was implicitly giving

Dr David Owen:
a philosophy in the '80s

But even if such an approach was sufficient in those circumstances for government, I doubt if it would be enough to win Labour's civil war in opposition. Dr David Owen recognized as much a week ago when he spoke of the centre and right having neglected the philosophical as well as the organizational development of the party. He went on to advocate a philosophy for the 1980s that would revive "the strand of fraternity and cooperation within the Labour Party", and to propound in particular the cause of cooperative ownership.

His broad theme, his search for a socialism that would not depend upon state centralism, would seem to me to be along the lines that Labour ought to take. So far as his particular policy of cooperative ownership is concerned, there is certainly scope for its extension. But I doubt if it will expand at such a pace as to form the centrepiece of Labour policy in the next few years. It is likely to seem to most people either too limited or too futuristic to serve the immediate political purpose.

The essential point for Labour's right-wing, though, is that it needs to engage fully in the battle of ideas. It will not defeat the left if it appears to be no more than the anti-left. Nor can it win by organization alone. If it is to regain the initiative within the party it will need to propound themes and broad policies that will kindle enthusiasm for what it wants to do, not just for what it wants to stop the left from doing.

Robert Fisk

Why Karmal and the Russians should have known better

For hundreds of miles across Afghanistan the villages remain virtually unchanged since the days of Ghengis Khan

progress and development, according to the current party line, and Karmal is now pledged to continue this anti-imperialist work on behalf of the people of Afghanistan. Of course, the exotic view of Afghan history bears little relation to the truth. Tarraki was not deeply loved by his people but a president whose secret police locked up thousands of his political opponents and whose most dangerous ideological enemy within the party was not Amin but his new political inheritor, Babrak Karmal. It was Karmal who broke away from Tarraki's Khalq (People) movement in the late 60s to form the Parcham (Banner) wing of the PDP, and there still exists in Kabul's dusty bookshops printed evidence of Tarraki's distaste for the philosophical Marxist who now mourns his predecessor's "martyrdom".

A red-covered biography of Tarraki, for example, which the new regime has unaccountably failed to withdraw from circulation, carries this unflattering reference: "Babrak Karmal, who was rumoured to have connections with the Royal Court, imposed on the party in 1967 a division in accordance with the wishes of the ruling circles and a number of innocent and true patriots were led astray by him and thus kept away from comrades Tarraki according to the wishes of imperialism and the reactionary court."

Karmal's claim to have taken on the mantle of Tarraki's leadership looks very suspect when such quotations—from

books published under Tarraki's guidance—can be so easily found. And indeed, the record of the PDP since the Saur revolution of 1978 ("Saur" means April) has been one of interrupted social progress and anti-imperialist struggle but of almost constant and bloody internal factional fighting. Tarraki was shot by Amin's bodyguard in September, 1978, after himself apparently preparing Amin's own assassination. Amin died last month as the Russians manoeuvred Karmal into power. It was no idle question when a reporter asked Karmal at last week's Presidential press conference how long he expected to live. To such violent party instability have the Soviets allied themselves in Afghanistan.

It is not, however, the bloody

quality of political life in the country that presents the Russians with their greatest difficulty. What threatens their credibility—quite apart from their military intervention—is the almost total failure of each Soviet-backed regime to make the social and material progress expected of a modern socialist state. Only now, it appears, are the Russians beginning to understand the reasons for this failure and to realize that the ideology imposed on comparatively sophisticated societies in Eastern Europe cannot be grafted with the same mixture of loud enthusiasm and brutality upon the uneducated peasantry of Afghanistan.

For this is one of the poorest, most isolated lands in the world with 95 per cent illiteracy, a nation whose feudal unit has been held together by traditionalism and the com-

mon heritage of orthodox Sunni Islam rather than by central government in Kabul. The Soviets should have seen this for themselves. For hundreds of miles across Afghanistan, through the foothills of the Hindu Kush, the villages on each side of the road remain virtually unchanged since the day of Ghengis Khan. Fortified farms with mud battlements lie on plateaus amid the snow, their inhabitants sitting in the shadow of the walls and watching with meditative suspicion the distant foreigners travelling the road to Kandahar. Their lives do not revolve around social aspirations but are governed by the constant pre-occupations of family, religion and the minutiae of inherited wealth.

When he seized power in 1978, Tarraki made no attempt to construct any bridging material between this feudal society and the Marxist concept of an equal society that had by now become enshrined in the PDP. His sudden leap from tribalism involved land reform and progressive legislation including the emancipation of women. These potentially beneficial measures, however, only exacerbated the hostility of a people who looked—led to some extent still do look—to the tribal allegiance of a king rather than a bureaucrat supported by a foreign government.

Tarraki's decree number six for example exempted peasants from repaying loans to landowners on whose property they

rented. But the legislation took no account of the landowners' right to control irrigation and those who took advantage of the decree found that their newly acquired pastures went dry. When Tarraki's Government introduced adult literacy classes for women, men in the villages refused to allow their wives and daughters to attend. They were supported by the Mullahs and in several towns this opposition took violent form and was ruthlessly suppressed by the army.

There may just have been enough support for his coup for Karmal to have undertaken some measures which would allay the suspicions of the peasantry. The most obvious characteristic of the four principle rebel groups fighting the regime is their lack of unity and although some religious figures, including Pir Gholi, have publicly defected to the rebels, Sunni Islam in Afghanistan possesses a hierarchy and a no Muslim leader has come forward to rally the people.

But if there is one common denominator calculated to unify opposition to Karmal it is the historical distrust and hatred of foreigners, an attitude that has been defined over centuries of invasions and attempted occupation. Already this has begun to identify itself in the anonymous Islamic group whose activities in Kabul were reported in *The Times* earlier this week.

It was therefore one thing for Karmal to open the prison gates at Poleschowki and to rid Afghanistan of Amin. It was quite another to do it with better armed Karmal's arrival in Afghanistan was not in itself resented. His mistake was that he brought the Russians with him.

Robert Fisk

CHINA DIARY

Bill posters will be prosecuted

I never knew Democracy Wall when it was the barometer and progenitor of Chinese political thought, every change of poster being scrutinized by the hundreds who milled about it and debated by the press and embassies of the world.

It was a symbol for something important that was stirring in China, but like many such symbols it had to be destroyed. The wall remains, but it is a puny wall, grey, squat and charmless, next to a nondescript bus depot. There is only one poster on it now, saying that posters are forbidden. There was no-one around, except for one couple talking quietly in the shadows.

It is difficult to believe that what was on that wall once stirred the imagination of millions. It lacked dignity, and I was sorry that I had seen it.

Importing the worst

Peking is a city of three sounds: the swish of a thousand bicycles; the hooting of

cars and buses (the relative sparseness of the traffic far outweighed by the Chinese driver's passion for the horn); and the unembarrassed bawling and spitting of the people, apparently being slowly educated by the use of spittoons but with no levelling of the decibel level.

I was not prepared for so many advertising hoardings for consumer products. I suppose it was to be expected that the Japanese would be dominant in advertising their wares, but there were some depressing billboards for local products: toothpaste and cashmere jumpers for instance. They were disappointing because the smiling girls depicted did not look very Chinese. It was as if the artist had tried to draw an all-purpose but round-eyed Eurasian face so as to make the European feel more at home.

China, is of course, making a serious effort to attract foreign investment and participation, and has opened the country to foreign visitors as never before. In their sincere attempt to make the visitor feel at ease, the Chinese have allowed "western" cultural influences to take root, and I am not sure that they will not regret it.

Disco dancing, for instance, is hardly one of the exports in which the West takes most pride, but there it was, at a hall at Peking's International Club, the Bee-Gee's *Saturday Night Fever* being played, mainly by local Chinese, with foreigners looking on. Such dancing has only been allowed in Peking for less than a year, but those Chinese permitted to frequent the clubs have taken to it with great charm.

I am not sure whether this was another concession to us, but it grieved me deeply to leave behind, both in Peking and Shanghai, row upon row of beautifully maintained snooker tables unused and ready to play on.

Tridentine tradition

The Catholic Church in China and the Vatican have been at arms length for 30 years, since Rome, during one of its more virulent anti-communist phases, refused to accept the accommodation which the Chinese church and Mao's communist regime had reached. Last month, a new Bishop of Peking was consecrated—an event announced by the China news

agency but cold-shouldered by the Vatican.

Left to itself, and not subjected to the modernistic tendencies of the Second Vatican Council, the Church in Peking has happily continued to celebrate Mass in the Tridentine tradition. The lack of vernacular, however, appears to have had a surely unwanted effect: it was noticeable that the congregation at midnight Mass on Christmas Eve was very largely elderly. It was a well-attended—2,000 or so people—and moving ceremony.

An oddity was the apparent lack of a confessional, which caused some of our party to go to extraordinary lengths to justify their taking Communion. There was nothing secretive about the ceremony, and no feeling that the congregation were acting in any spirit of defiance. So far as we could determine, relations between this Church and the state are relaxed.

Cantonese capitalism

I was with the first-ever group of British lawyers to visit China. The trip, well organized by the Society for Anglo-



Chinese Understanding. Involved numerous formal meetings with various levels of officials and experts. At every meeting there was a constant supply of tea (served in cups with lids, so that it would not get cold). There was, I am sure, a correlation between the

kind of tea we were given and the status of our hosts.

At communes and factories it was a sturdy, strong-leaved brew. Middle-range local officials served us slightly scented, hesitant tea. The most senior political figures on our agenda gave us tea so delicately scented and coloured that it was like drinking hot water. Public kissing and cuddling among the Chinese increased dramatically as we travelled south. There was none of it in Peking, not even couples walking hand in hand, and this was not just because of the cold weather. I was told. Along Shanghai's evocative waterfront promenade, many couples were strolling arm in arm and behaving like courting couples. A small boat on the Pearl River in Canton was much more European. Entwining was rife, and we were duly shocked.

We were shocked, too, by the mercenary nature of the Cantonese, though we should not have been surprised. A city which holds a trade fair, and has close family, and increasingly, business, links with Hongkong must inevitably fall prey to the capitalist influence. It was nevertheless, sad to have the taxi-driver who

had taken us to the river refuse to pick us up again at a stated time unless he was paid the full fare there and then.

Hongkong connexion

Gloria Vanderbilt, apart from being a lady famous for being rich, is also now a high-class and expensive brand of jeans. I wonder how many workers realize the conditions in which they are made? In a worker's commune near Canton, we saw a hundred or so women hunched over their sewing machines, putting together denim jeans destined for Minnesota. They were in effect working for a Hongkong businessman under a kind of arrangement which is becoming increasingly popular.

The entrepreneur (who was in fact born on that commune before finding his fortune across the border) provides the material, the sewing machines, basic training, and helps towards buying the factory. The commune workers turn the denim into skillfully finished jeans. At the end of five years, the commune keeps the machinery and can use it for its own purposes.

I could not help reflecting that the businessman had got the better of the deal—five-year-old Singer machines is not really payment enough for five years' labour. It was also inspiring to see Chinese seamstresses carefully finishing off their meticulous work by sewing on the distinctive label: "Made in Hongkong".

Unexpected impressions

My three most unexpected impressions of China: First, the cleanliness of the cities and the people. There are few countries in the world where I would be happy to dine in a workman's eating house. I went into several in China, and not one was less than spotless. Second, how wrong the myth of Chinese impossibility and inscrutability. There was a great deal of smiling and friendliness, but even when serious, there was animation. Third, the quality of the light, especially in the north. A hazy translucence is the best I can do.

Marcel Berlins

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BLOODY WET IN EUROPE

The way that Chancellor Schmidt chose to present his government's position on the Afghan crisis in his statement to the Bundestag yesterday was unfortunate. He bracketed the Afghan problem together with the Iranian one, and pledged West German support for the United States in both cases. He was not as feeble as M. François Ponscet, but that sets an unmatchable standard.

The fact is that the two issues are quite different in character. In the Iranian context it is quite correct to speak of offering support to the United States, since the crisis concerns American diplomats who have been taken hostage. But in Afghanistan there is no particular American interest at stake. There is first and foremost an Afghan interest. Next there is the interest of other states in the region which are potential victims of the next Soviet aggression. Thirdly there is the interest of all those who depend on the Middle East for their energy supplies—and West Germany does so to a much greater extent than the United States. Finally there is the interest of the world in general, which may suffer if the Soviet Union is encouraged to think it can invade other countries with impunity. If Afghanistan, why not us?

In asking other Western countries to cooperate in applying sanctions to the Soviet Union, therefore, President Carter is not appealing to our sense of friendship or loyalty as an ally. He is appealing to our sense of self-preservation. He should not need even to do that, because our sense of self-preservation ought to be well enough developed to perceive the threat, and to want to do something about it, without waiting for an American leader to point it out to us. It is particularly unfortunate that, while the British Government clearly does see matters that way, the instinctive reaction of our Euro-

pean partners seems to be that Afghanistan is outside Europe, and therefore an American responsibility, and that the only problem it poses to European countries is to reconcile their twin duties of supporting the United States on the one hand and preventing the unpleasantness from spilling over into Europe on the other.

Of course we all agree that the last thing we want is a heightening of Russian pressures on Europe, particularly at a moment when Yugoslavia may be about to embark on the uncertainties of the post-Tito era. But how best can we discourage the Soviet leaders from attempting to take advantage of any problems that Yugoslavia encounters? Is it by allowing their invasion of Afghanistan, at the alleged invitation of a Communist leader whom on arrival they promptly killed, to pass with no more than a censorious clicking of tongues? Or is it by showing that we recognize aggression when we see it, and are prepared to respond to it with firm action even at some cost to ourselves, even at the risk of "jeopardizing détente"?

It really should not need repeating that détente cannot be a one-way process. And it really should not be supposed that détente can be cultivated in Europe if it is ignored in the rest of the world—if only because Europe is dependent on the rest of the world for many of the raw materials on which its industrial prosperity is based, with oil of course foremost among them. Détente can be successful only if both sides accept its rules, one of which must be that neither side uses force to take over non-aligned countries; and it is now amply clear that the Soviet leaders will not accept that so long as they think the West will let them get away with it.

If one wants evidence of this, one has only to look at the list of

countries which voted with the Soviet Union against the resolution on Afghanistan in the general assembly, and ask how many of them would have done so if the armed forces of either the Soviet Union itself, or one of its other allies had not been used either to put the government in power or to keep it there; and then notice what a fine bunch of them—Mozambique, Angola, Ethiopia, Laos, Grenada and Afghanistan itself—have been brought into the Soviet orbit since détente was officially proclaimed. To these one should add South Vietnam, no longer represented by a separate government, and most of Cambodia, now ruled by the puppet Heng Samrin government, which happily the United Nations does not recognize; and possibly some of those which managed to be absent when the vote was taken, such as Libya and the Seychelles. (Actual abstention must be taken as a sign of at least residual independence.) And one should not forget the coup of 1978 which consolidated Soviet and East German control of South Yemen. During the same period, only Egypt, Somalia and perhaps now Iraq have gone the other way, and in none of those has there been even the remotest hint of Western armed intervention. In all three the same people stayed in power throughout the decade, and are still there. They saw the threat posed by Soviet presence to their independence in time.

The sad truth is that the main European response to repeated Soviet aggression has been utterly feeble—or, as Mrs Thatcher is said to have described it, "bloody wet". The lesson of modern history is that the polar bear moves against weakness, and recoils from strength. The idea that there is safety in weakness when dealing with the Soviet Union is absurd; what is sad is that this European weakness also means disunity.

THE MARKET PRICE FOR MORTGAGES

The Stow Report on building society finance, recommending as it does that the societies adopt more competitive interest rates, will not please everyone. Not least it is unlikely to endear itself to existing borrowers for whom it is suggesting relatively higher mortgage rates than those to which they have become accustomed. The report is, however, a thoroughly rational document and has two particular merits. It forces the building societies to recognize that their present attempts to apply a concept of interest rate equity between investors and borrowers is highly dubious; and it forces the politicians to recognize that it is pure humbug to call on the societies to improve the flow of mortgage finance while simultaneously urging them to hold down the cost of mortgages.

The gist of the Stow Report is that in the face of inexorably rising mortgage demand during the eighties (particularly with the government's programme of council house sales to be financed), the societies should make it their principal priority to clear the market. In other words, they should see to it that they raise sufficient money to ensure that mortgages are available on demand, and not, as so

often at present, only after many months of queuing.

In spite of the implication of rather higher costs attaching to house purchase in future, the basic recommendation of the report should be viewed favourably. It is consistent with Conservative policy of maximizing freedom of choice by allowing market forces to take their course; it should reduce frustration among would-be home buyers, and reduce the possibility of house purchase chains collapsing; it should help the house-building industry; and it should mean that building society savers have rather more opportunity to achieve real returns.

There are, however, a number of further points that need consideration. First, the precise marginal cost of generating an adequate flow of money into the mortgage market is not clear. What is clear, however, is that despite the societies estimate that they are roughly two-thirds self-financing in terms of their lending, any attempt to meet total mortgage demand would require the attraction of a significant quantity of new savings. This would tend to raise the general level of interest rates in the economy and lay the societies open to the accusation of increasing industries costs—a develop-

ment that a government committed to market principles would, presumably, have to learn to live with.

Second, the notion of societies meeting mortgage demand in full by becoming more competitive must assume that they will be prepared to make more frequent changes in their interest rates. That may be acceptable for investors but is unlikely to be ideal for borrowers. Certainly, the societies could continue to use their liquidity cushion to prevent too many minor fluctuations in mortgage rate. But borrowers who opted for less frequent changes in mortgage rate, say six monthly or annually, would have to accept the trade-off: rate changes, when they did come, could be quite large.

Finally, it follows from the fact that the overall cost of house buying would rise that a number of people on lower incomes would finally have to drop any hopes of aspiring to home ownership. This is not a problem with any easy solution, but at least the present programme of council house sales at below market prices has opened up the possibility of home ownership to a far larger number of people than would otherwise have been the case.

A HARSH AND REPRESSIVE REGIME

It is hard to quarrel with the main argument for restoring diplomatic relations with Chile to the level of ambassadors—that British interests are in general best served by having representation at that level, and that having an ambassador in a country is not a sign of approval of its government. President Pinochet's regime does have a particularly brutal record, but is not significantly worse than a number of other regimes with which we have full diplomatic relations. So on this view Wednesday's decision to send an ambassador to Santiago, after an absence of four years, is essentially a matter of ending an anomaly. It puts us back in line with the United States and most other west European countries, which have found that having full diplomatic relations with Chile is the best way to bring influence to bear, as well as helping to promote commercial interests.

This rather theoretical line of argument does not however take account of the full implications of the move. The last British ambassador was withdrawn from

Chile because of the specific case of Dr Sheila Cassidy, who was imprisoned and tortured in 1975. But it was generally seen as having a wider significance, as a broad condemnation by the Labour government of the excesses committed by the military regime since it took over power from President Allende in 1973. The decision by a Conservative government to send an ambassador once again suggests either that the Conservatives do not take such a serious view of the behaviour of the armed forces in Chile or else that they consider there has been a significant improvement in human rights there. This, at least, is the way that it will be interpreted both in Chile and elsewhere, and in either case it will give considerable encouragement to President Pinochet and his regime.

The decision is not simply a neutral act, therefore, but one which was actively sought by the regime as a way of improving its abysmal public image, and positively discouraged by members of the democratic opposition, still deprived of all normal means

of expression, who saw it as strengthening the regime. There are, besides, no obvious gains for Britain in it. There is no reason for supposing that having an ambassador in Santiago rather than a chargé d'affaires is going to make it significantly easier for British firms to win civil contracts.

Even the Chilean statement, expressing regret for any improper treatment that Dr Cassidy may have received, falls short of admitting that she actually was tortured, let alone undertaking to punish those responsible. The regime is in fact resisting all attempts to account for the hundreds of people who have been tortured and killed since the military came to power. It has also retained the apparatus of repression which enables it to hold down organized opposition, and still includes torture as a way of extracting information. It is true that it is not the only repressive system in the world, and that we send ambassadors to some of the others. But is that a reason to make it a gratuitous present?

Christians and politics

From the Reverend C. Gordon Wilson
Sir, Canon G. B. Bentley (January 8) expresses the opinion that Cardinal Hume's article in *The Times* would have been better for inclusion of Realpolitik. Cardinal Hume can speak for himself if he wishes, but it seems to me that Canon Bentley's letter is so full of worldly pragmatism (what I take it, that he means by Realpolitik) that it certainly could have done with a strong infusion of Christian theology. Cardinal Hume did at least enunciate the vital Christian truth that "for Christians, the belief that God became man in Jesus Christ is

the decisive event of human history" and that the consequent belief in man's divine dignity "creates an inescapable obligation to defend and foster all human life from conception to the grave".

This seems to at least one Christian to be much more to the point than the so-called calculations of the balance of power—especially in the age of indiscriminately destructive nuclear weapons.
Yours faithfully,
GORDON WILSON,
Chairman,
Anglican Pacifist Fellowship,
St John's Vicarage,
14 Dane Bank Avenue,
Crewe,
Cheshire.

Out of this world

From Mr C. E. Carrington
Sir, Your article of January 12 is correct in naming Mr Springbeet as the fastest man in the atmosphere but wrong in claiming for him a record circumnavigation.
He did not cross the equator but took a short cut round a sector of the northern hemisphere. Or perhaps I should more accurately say, a slice.
Circumnavigation implies crossing the equator, or a meridian at two opposite points.
I am, Sir, etc.
C. E. CARRINGTON,
56 Canonbury Park South, N1,
January 12.

Intervention or the free market: the price of gas

From Sir William McEwan Younger
Sir, In your leading article today (January 16) you discuss the matter of the proposed substantial increase in the price of gas, in the context of the large profits made by the British Gas Corporation.

However, you do not identify the basic cause of this situation, namely that not only is British Gas the monopoly supplier, but that, also, a previous Government fixed the price paid by British Gas at well below the going rate elsewhere—there was thus achieved the dual result of inhibiting exploration and production while stimulating consumption—that is exactly what the United States Government did by its control of the prices charged by United States Utilities, with consequences which are now apparent.

That is, surely, why we now find ourselves in the totally absurd position of a demand for gas which cannot be met, and that at a time when very large quantities of North Sea gas are being flared. Further, it is reported that Shell's new major gas discovery in the Norwegian sector will probably be piped, not to the United Kingdom, but by a very much longer pipeline to Western Germany, at a price comparable to oil.

Is not the obvious answer to reverse the decision giving British Gas a monopoly, and to allow the price fixed, to the producer, to be fixed by normal market procedures?

We might well, then, also see a proper development of down-stream activities from North Sea gas feed-stock.

Yours,
WILLIAM MCEWAN YOUNGER,
29 Moray Place,
Edinburgh,
January 16.

From Professor Lord Kaldor, FBA

Sir, In your leading article today (January 16), on gas prices, you say that "this country has indulged in muddled thinking about its nationalized industries for too long". The "muddled thinking" arose from the obligation imposed by law (introduced by the Attlee Government) to relate the prices charged for services provided by nationalized industries to the costs of production (including a normal return on capital) and not to charge the monopoly price—the price that "the market would bear".
"Gas is underpriced" because oil has become too dear. The rise in the domestic oil price to levels dictated by the sheiks of the Middle East is justified in turn by the argument that this is necessary for the conservation of the country's oil resources (and the country's oil resources are not infinite). The country is urged to economise on oil and to switch to gas and coal. If the incentive thus provided turns out to be

too great—as shown by the "excessive demand for conversion to gas"—surely the argument is one for reducing the domestic oil price, not one for aligning gas and electricity prices to the ludicrously inflationary price of oil.

If, on the other hand, the "unmuddled" principle of nationalized industry pricing is to charge what the traffic can bear, irrespective of costs, then what remains of Sir Keith Joseph's argument that the "excess" should not be asked to foot the losses on steel? If high demand justifies a huge profit on gas, then surely the present low demand equally justifies a huge loss on steel—particularly when the excess profit on the one is ample for covering the losses on the other?

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS KALDOR,
King's College,
Cambridge,
January 16.

From Mr Geoffrey W.W. Pontin

Sir, The price of electricity should rise, the price of gas should not. A purely political decision to give cost parity to electricity and gas (a fossil fuel) must result in permanent, locked-in stresses between the two industries which will never be relieved until it is finally appreciated that the end product of a conversion process (in this case, electricity) is inescapably charged at a higher rate than its input materials (fossil fuels). Conversion efficiencies of 30 per cent are normally quoted.

Electricity is a quite different form of energy to gas (and the other fossil fuels) and the fact that all forms of energy can be used for heating purposes is unfortunate but incidental. Higher grades of energy can always be used for lower grade purposes.

Since we are now taught that energy consumption is a form of sin, it is instructive to note that the church recognises different grades of sin for which different penances are required. In this context, electrical heating is deserving of at least five hail Marys.

Even Marie Antoinette never suggested that the price of flour be increased to line up with the price of cake.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
GEOFFREY W.W. PONTIN,
Chairman,
Control Technology Limited,
Balney Avenue,
Peasehaven,
Sussex,
January 16.

From the Reverend Dr Chad Varah

Sir, You state that there is no rational reason (at least in the eyes of the public) for the fact that gas consumers should pay less for their energy than the other (consumers of electricity).

Economic decline

From Professor T. W. Hutchison
Sir, Lord Balogh and Mr Opie may be right in claiming the relative economic decline of Britain from "about 1880". But they are wrong, by approximately 20 years, in asserting that laissez-faire and free trade principles were the "sacredly done" cause of this decline. As Professor Hobsbawm (in his *Industry and Empire*) has observed, "the peak of British laissez-faire" was "around 1860".

—(when Britain was known as the workshop of the world)—and the foundations of laissez-faire crumbled in the 1860s and 1870s.

Vital among the new government measures of the 1870s were the two Trade Union Acts of 1871 and 1875, which laid the foundations of union power, and incidentally, permitted picketing; and which, according to Professor Hobsbawm, "gave the unions a degree of legal freedom which conservative-minded lawyers have since, at intervals, attempted to whittle away".

Anyhow, none of our main competitors, then or since, have suffered such handicaps to industrial efficiency as British trade union legislation has imposed. This is not to assert any over-simplified relationship, but the timing must be noted.

More recently, after World War II, the economy of the German Fed-

eration, the outstanding western economic success of recent decades, started with the advantage of sensible and quite restrictive trade union legislation. But Lord Balogh, in 1950, complained bitterly of the "obsolescence" and "iniquitous" policies of Dr Erhardt, which "helped to weaken the trade unions" and the "weakness" of which, he alleged, "may even inhibit increases in productivity".—(as contrasted with the effects of strong trade unions in this country).

In spite of our marvellous "planning for growth", reality, 30 years later, has turned out rather differently, hasn't it? While the poor in this country, like almost everyone else, have to put up with far lower real incomes, and far inferior social services, compared with their counterparts in the G7, the only class which has obviously done better for itself has been that which has profited from union and ungodly lobby. Of course, the demands for protective tariffs, put forward by the unions and their supporters, are intended further to heighten union power.

Yours faithfully,
T. W. HUTCHISON,
75 Oakfield Road,
Selly Park,
Birmingham,
January 16.

The Ulster conundrum

From Mr P. W. Duncanson
Sir, Discussion of Northern Ireland's constitutional position is greatly hindered by the misuse of words.

Mr Cecil Lewis (January 10) refers to the "withdrawal" of the United Kingdom from Northern Ireland. The name "United Kingdom" refers specifically to the new kingdom created in 1801 by the union of the Kingdom of Great Britain and the Kingdom of Ireland. This was modified earlier this century with the detachment of two-thirds of the Irish population to form the Republic of Ireland.

The United Kingdom is now the kingdom formed jointly by Northern Ireland and Great Britain. If, therefore, the union of the territories is ended the United Kingdom will cease to exist.

One can, therefore, reasonably refer to the withdrawal of Britain from the United Kingdom or, as seen from the other side, the expulsion of Northern Ireland from the United Kingdom.

If the union is dissolved then Great Britain will need to find a new national flag and, unless

Northern Ireland takes the status of a kingdom under Her Majesty, a new Royal Standard.

Covering to what is stated by Sir and Mrs Tony Firth (January 11) the possibility of an independent Northern Ireland has been suggested. There is a local political group dedicated to this, and a few years ago civil servants of the Northern Ireland office under the then Secretary of State Merlyn Rees were actively canvassing the idea. Very few people could see any merit in the idea.

However, I suspect that when many people in Great Britain refer to the benefits of independence for Northern Ireland they really mean are the benefits to Great Britain of independence from Northern Ireland.

It would be of great service to the people of Northern Ireland if those in Britain who wish for independence for Great Britain would say so plainly and openly. Terrorists thrive on a diet of minced words.

Yours faithfully,
P. W. DUNCANSON,
Lisburn,
County Antrim.

Protecting freedom

From Mr Paul Sieghart
Sir, Lord Shawcross (January 11) has met Mr Bemmion's point (January 9) only in part.

The list of converts to the notion of a modern Bill of Rights on our statute book grows apace. Lord Hailsham, Lord Denning and Professor Dainton, once articulate opponents have now all joined it.

Mr Bemmion objects that such a law would "necessarily consist of vague statements of principle, subject to equally vague exceptions", which someone would have to interpret.

Quite so: that has been the case in every one of the world's countries which (unlike the UK) have followed the example first set by France in 1789 and the USA in 1791. The US Supreme Court has accumulated a wealth of experience in interpreting just such "vague"

legal provisions. So have the constitutional courts of dozens of other countries.

So, over nearly 30 years, have the European Commission and Court of Human Rights, interpreting the European Convention which would be the leading candidate for the text of a new Bill of Rights of our own.

Why should our judges fail, when all those others have succeeded? When I once asked a distinguished member of our judiciary whether he and his brethren would find it difficult to interpret the European Convention if it became part of English law, his reply was: "Yes, at first we would. But we would soon learn. After all, that's what we're here for".

Yours etc.
PAUL SIEGHART,
6 Gray's Inn Square, WCL,
January 14.

A tower opposite the Tate

From Mr E. L. Howard
Sir, The Archbishop of Canterbury in his letter to you (January 16), complains of "lack of publicity" for the proposed European Ferries building at Vauxhall Cross. In reality the developers, and we as their architects, have taken considerable pains to secure publicity.

Quite apart from normal statutory advertisement, European Ferries mounted two public exhibitions (one of them within 100 yards of the Archbishop's London residence), sent a full press statement to national and London evening newspapers, and the local authorities notified more than a dozen bodies concerned with environmental and amenity questions. Moreover, the BBC's *Nationwide* programme televised part of the first day of the public inquiry (December 11).

The Archbishop and his colleagues also refer to the building as "the Green Giant" and describe it as clad in green glass. This is not so. It will be clad in a light tinted glass giving an appearance of transparency, and though a final decision as to the exact tint has yet to be taken, we cannot use green glass because it would fail to protect the exhibits in the gallery spaces.

The proposal is, incidentally, to house some of the Tate Gallery's modern art there: it is not nor has never been proposed to put the Turners there.

It is a great pity that the Archbishop and his co-signatories have not seen the need, either in person or by written representation, or (with one exception) communicated with the Inspector presiding. None of the scheme's eminent critics has, however, considered it necessary to encumber their minds with the full facts, which we would have been happy to assist them in clarifying.

We have brought both the Archbishop's letter and the *Times* day's letter to Lord Dunsany-Sanders to the attention of the Inspector.

Yours faithfully,
E. L. HOWARD,
1-2 Bromley Place,
Conway Street, W1,
January 17.

Access to Public Records

From Dr Charles Cruickshank
Sir, The debate on the closure of the reading rooms in the Public Record Office in Chancery Lane is an interesting example of the principle that most of us are happy to see public expenditure cut so long as it does not touch the particular interest. The case against closure is based on two main considerations: inconvenience to readers; and danger to records carried between Chancery Lane and Kew.

I do not share the alarm and despondency generated by the latter. Magna Carta has survived a turbulent seven centuries. Domesday Book has done even better. In any case the few reasonably-worthwhile documents in demand are not in Chancery Lane, leaving the bread and butter material to shuttle between Chancery Lane and Kew with a risk of theft or damage which is perfectly acceptable. Moreover, if the records move in demand are moved to Kew, only a tiny handful will have to run the gauntlet of terrorism, incineration by accident, simple hijacking, etc. etc.

The second consideration—inconvenience to readers—is less important. The efficiency of record production at Kew and the admirable facilities there are such that the average reader can increase productivity even if more time has to be spent commuting to Kew.

I might add that my own private fear, which I have not hitherto found it necessary to communicate to your readers, although I believe there is more substance in it than those which trouble Professor Davis, is that a Jumbo jet bound for Heathrow might have the misfortune to crash land on the splendid building at Kew and demolish the nation's records in a matter of hours. However, I would not argue that this makes a case for moving PRO Kew—or alternatively London Airport—to the Outer Hebrides.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES CRUICKSHANK,
15 McKay Road,
Wimbledon Common, SW20,
January 14.

Future of motor industry

From the Group Managing Director of Rolls-Royce Motors
Sir, Responding to the suggestion by the Managing Director of Dunlop Holdings (January 10) that satisfied users of BL products should stand up and be counted, Rolls-Royce Motors have an all BL fleet of cars and trucks.

In the nine years since our new company was formed, early in 1971, we have converted virtually all models of BL cars and trucks and our transport management assure me that the performance of these vehicles has been thoroughly satisfactory, and in terms of operating cost and overall value for money, they see no virtue in changing the present policy.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID PLASTOW,
Group Managing Director,
Rolls-Royce Motors Limited,
Crewe,
Cheshire,
January 10.

Dashed hope

From Lady Le Bailly
Sir, One of the more pleasant aspects of the return of *The Times* was the hope that we should see and hear less of your Political Editor on television.

It seems a pity that he wastes so much of your valuable space (January 12) grilling about Mrs Thatcher's magnificent interview with Brian Walden. But the splendid way in which the former wiped the floor with Mr Emery some months ago remains a happy memory for many of us, however much it clearly still rankles with him.

Yours faithfully,
PAMELA LE BAILLY,
St. Rudy,
Cornwall.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

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Stock markets
FT Ind 450.8 down 4.7
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Sterling
\$2.2770 up 9 3/4 points
Index 71.6 down 0.1

Dollar
Index 84.7 up 0.1

Gold
\$760 an ounce up \$5

3-month money
Inter-bank 16 1/2 to 16 1/4
Euro \$ 13 1/2 to 14 1/4

IN BRIEF

Dixons plans complete disposal of Westons

Dixons Photographic is on the verge of a complete withdrawal from the retail photographic business just four years after it paid £10.5m for Westons, the United Kingdom's second-largest chain of chemists.

Sales of 141 Westons' shops are currently at various stages of negotiation and buyers will soon be sought for the remaining 20 outlets. At the same time Dixons is well into a reorganization programme for Westons' wholesale division, designed to reduce the existing number of depots from 27 to 12.

Mr Egon von Greyerz, Dixons finance director, said that the sales could produce a gross figure of something over £12m. Most of the shops are being sold to individuals although several according to Mr von Greyerz have been bought by Westons' former chairman, Mr Ralph Weston, who is now with Combined English Stores.

Financial Editor, page 19

Industry Bill progress

The Industry Bill, which drastically reduces the powers of the National Enterprise Board and the Scottish and Welsh Development Agencies, has completed its committee stage in the Commons.

Polystyrene prices up

Shell Chemicals UK and BP Chemicals say that they will increase polystyrene prices from February. Shell said crystal grade polystyrene will be raised to 5670 from £625 per tonne, BP's increases will be to the 8 to 10 per cent range, with variations in other European countries.

Shares disposal

Mr Neville Johnson, who resigned as chairman and chief executive of the furniture group Kitchen Queen on Wednesday, sold the major slice of his shares at 10 1/2p, less than half the market price on that day.

Financial News, page 20

Consumer spending up

Consumer spending rose by 14 per cent between the third and fourth quarters of last year, after seasonal adjustment. Mr preliminary estimates show that spending rose in most areas which had been depressed in the third quarter.

Table, page 18.

Esso puts on 4p

Esso has raised the price of its four star petrol from midnight by 3.5p a gallon which will mean an extra 4p to be paid by motorists at the pumps.

Thorn-Necchi venture

Thorn Domestic Appliances is to form a new £5m company with Necchi of Italy to manufacture hermetically sealed compressors for refrigerators and freezers in County Durham.

£3m order for Decca

The Ministry of Defence has placed a £3m order with Decca Navigator for the installation of doppler navigation systems in Royal Navy Sea King helicopters.

Wall Street easier

On the New York Stock Exchange, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 1.62 to 863.57. Against the S&P, the dollar stood at 1.32065 and the pound at 0.583455.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Hampton Gold	15p to 300p
Killinghall	13p to 413p
Marleale	20c to 375c
Midland	11p to 361p
Newmark L	13p to 220p

Falls

Stricken Mines	30c to 42c
De La Rue	15p to 580p
Gravelly	70c to 835c
Lead	45c to 338c
Lydenburg	23p to 172p

Textile industry leaders' plea to keep short time aid

By John Huxley

Attempts were being made yesterday by textile footwear and clothing leaders to avert a Government decision to end its scheme of short time working assistance for the industries.

It is feared that an announcement that the scheme is to end will be made by Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, within the next few days. MPs are likely to question Mr Prior over the future of the scheme today.

The scheme, which reimburses employers for wages paid to workers on short time, came into effect on April 1, 1979. It has helped employers to protect more than 40,000 jobs, 15,000 of which are in the hard-pressed textiles industry. It is understood that the total number of people to have benefited from the scheme may be about 120,000.

Short time working assistance was introduced after the Labour Government was forced, reluctantly and under pressure from other members of the European Community, to end its system of temporary employment subsidy (TES).

About 9,000 applications relating to 540,000 jobs have been made for TES, which was introduced primarily to mitigate the effect of adverse trading conditions in the textile and clothing and footwear industries. It was wound up in March 1979 after protests from within the Community that TES while saving jobs, represented a subsidy to industry.

A decision to stop giving short time assistance is believed to be favoured by the Department of Industry, which has in the past signalled its dislike of measures which prop up ailing industries.

Leaders of industries to benefit from short time assistance think it less effective than TES as a means of pro-

tecting jobs since payments to companies are made retrospectively.

However, withdrawal of the assistance could do considerable damage to the industries, which are suffering from a downturn in trade and the effects of cheap imports, high interest rates and adverse exchange rate movements.

Leaders in each of the three sectors have written to Mr Prior urging him to postpone the ending of assistance for another year. Then, they say, a further review should be made.

Mr Bob Lloyd-Jones, director general of the British Textiles Employers' Association, said that the ending of the scheme would hit the textiles industry severely.

"Any idea of abandoning the scheme now would make already difficult conditions for the industry absolutely impossible in many cases," he said. "It would run the risk of losing a large part of the textile industry, much of which was producing efficiently."

The withdrawal of assistance would particularly hit smaller companies in the textiles, footwear and clothing industries which do not have the resources to sustain a reverse in trading conditions. Workers may now have to be made redundant rather than retained on short time working as in the past.

EEC quotas—New import quotas on garments from the Philippines, Tongkong, and India have been introduced by the EEC Commission following representations from the United Kingdom government. The quotas are on babies' under and outer garments from the Philippines, under garments from Hongkong and jackets and blazers from India.

Rhodesian windfall for Turner and Newall

By Rosemary Unsworth

Turner and Newall, the Manchester-based ashtray and motor components group, has discovered that its Rhodesian subsidiaries made profits of £99m during the 14 years of UDI.

After a recent fact-finding mission by the group's financial team, T & N found that the companies, which operate three asbestos mines and manufacture construction and industrial materials, had boosted net assets from £6.3m in 1965 when the first accounts were consolidated, to £32m based on aggregate figures for the subsequent years to December 12, 1979.

The mining section contributed £35m during this period while the manufacturing side made £14m. In addition, the mining company management invested in three small gold mining joint ventures which T & N predicts, will provide £333,000 profits in 1980 on top of the £12m forecast for the other Rhodesian operations.

However, Mr Stephen Gibbs, the group's chairman, gave a warning that the forecast had been made on the assumption that all hostilities would cease and that there would be no major interruptions.

He stressed that the forecast would only hold if profit margins were not undermined by "excessive inflation or other unforeseen circumstances". The projections include a £6.6m depreciation charge and capital expenditure in 1980 is estimated at £20m on top of another £16.6m which has already been committed.

Mr Gibbs said the group was unable to announce any dividend policy from the Rhodesian companies until after the March dividend. In any case, accumulated dividends would not be paid. The local management has used the cash flow in the 14 years of UDI for reinvestment to improve mine working conditions, increase production and to acquire a number of local companies.

Financial Editor, page 19



Gold fever: queues formed early outside the offices of bullion dealers Johnson Matthey and Jay and Banford in Hatton Garden, London, as people took advantage of the record price of gold to sell family heirlooms and jewelry.

Gold tops \$800 level in New York

Gold pushed through the \$800 an ounce level last night in New York on the back of strong institutional buying.

Dealers on both sides of the Atlantic report that the bullion markets seem to have taken off into another world as feverish buying grips investors in London and New York.

The metal swung back into favour after the price fell on the overnight Hongkong market and dropped \$25 on the London morning fix. But by the afternoon buyers were back and

dealing was hectic as the price soared to record levels.

In London it closed at a new high of \$760 an ounce. Dealers were astonished that the price had rebounded so quickly after its early fall of more than \$25 an ounce. But within hours the price in New York had raced ahead to break the \$800 level.

Our Washington correspondent reports that much of last night's activity was due to a backlog of orders, especially from private investors, which has built up over the last two or three days. These orders, he

says, could not be satisfied and the price surge simply reflects the satisfying of these orders.

At one point gold prices reached as high as \$820 before falling back to an average of \$802 an ounce at the New York close.

Here at home uncertainty over the health of President Tito is now an additional factor in the gold market. It joins Iran and Afghanistan in the list of reasons that investors are moving into gold. And no one is willing to say what or when the gold price will stabilize.

Slow down in money growth

By John Whitmore

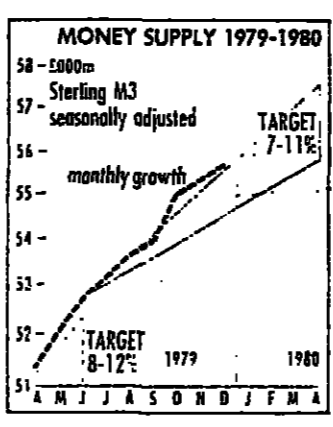
Financial Correspondent

The money supply grew by 0.4 per cent in the December banking month, confirming earlier indications that the rate of monetary expansion now appears to be slowing down.

Even so, the monetary authorities and financial markets are treating the figures with considerable caution and will want to see several further sets of figures before they will feel that an improved trend has definitely been established.

Certainly, the Government is unlikely to countenance any cut in short term interest rates until it considers that there is no risk that it might have to reverse such a decision later in the spring.

News of the December figures made little impact on the gilt edged market, the likely outcome for the December banking month already having been indicated closely by the Bank at the time of the eligible liability figures last Tuesday. The market was more preoccupied yesterday with consolidating its recent gains, absorbing profit-taking by domestic and overseas investors. The market's main short term preoccupations now are whether or not the Bank



top end of the Government's 7.1 per cent target.

Banking money is always treated with caution, however, since it is only a three week period—this year the three weeks to December 12. Furthermore, the Bank of England suggests that the apparent slow-down in the rate of growth of bank lending to the private sector—£212m last month against a recent monthly average of some £700m—may have been misleading, partly because of the lower level of PAVE payments that had to be financed.

Bank lending to the private sector was, however, the main contributor to domestic credit expansion last month. The public sector contribution was under £70m, a very large Central Government borrowing requirement of £1,470m (seasonally adjusted) being offset largely by public sector debt sales. Net gilt sales to the non-bank private sector totalled £134m.

Overall, DCE amounted to £253m, much the smallest monthly figure in the present financial year. On the other hand, external and foreign currency finance was a positive factor (£156m).

Tables, page 18

Deposits fall at London's US banks

Bank of England figures show that overseas currency deposits at American banks in London dropped by nearly \$2,800m after the United States freeze in November to freeze Iranian state assets.

Foreign currency deposits from abroad at American banks in London fell to \$67,551m from \$70,414m in the three-week period. Taking all other categories of London Banks together, overseas deposits rose to \$169,573m from \$167,160m.

There may have been some switching of deposits at American banks in London to London banks of other nationalities as well as withdrawals from United States banks.

An official at one American bank said that the United States freeze and action by Chase Manhattan Bank to bring Iran into default on a \$500m loan probably unnerved many large Middle East depositors.

Bank of England statistics also showed that expansion of the London dollar certificate of deposit (CD) market slowed in the three weeks ended December 12.

While the amount outstanding ended slightly higher, another record of \$43,422m the gain in the three-week period came to only \$146m.

In the previous five-week period, the amount outstanding rose by \$1,773m.

Lonrho bid may hinge on Rhodesia election result

By Philip Robinson

The Rhodesian elections could determine whether Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland's trading giant Lonrho ever takes full control of Harrods, part of the House of Fraser stores group.

Shares of Fraser, sensitive for months awaiting the widely expected bid from Lonrho for the 70 per cent it does not already own, were the most active traded in the stock yesterday and jumped 10p to 135p.

But it is understood that any move by Mr Rowland will not be made until after Lonrho's bid for the Rhodesian elections, both due next month.

City sources say that Lonrho will bid if Mr Joshua Nkomo is victorious in Rhodesia. Mr Nkomo's pro-western sympathy could benefit Lonrho, which has important interests in Rhodesia, and enable it more easily to afford Fraser.

It is thought Mr Rowland has already been offered 300p a share for his stake in the House of Fraser from two separate sources but has turned down both.

Last night Mr Rowland, through fellow director Mr Paul Spicer, said: "I refuse to comment on speculation."

Mr Rowland and Sir Hugh were among guests at a private dinner party on Wednesday night.

Sir Hugh said from his Glasgow office after travelling back to London that he had a dinner with Mr and Mrs Row-

No prospect of lower mortgages this year

By Margaret Stone

Building societies should be able to meet future demand for mortgages from traditional sources, provided the interest rates to both investors and borrowers are competitive.

This is the key verdict reached by the working party set up last August by the Building Societies Association, under its previous chairman, Mr Ralph Stow, to examine mortgage finance in the 1980s.

However, this solution to the problem of the mortgage queues, which triggered off the inquiry, means that existing borrowers are unlikely to see any fall in their mortgage repayments this year—even if interest rates in general fall.

The Stow report said that even in these circumstances, "societies should hold their interest rates until such time as mortgage demand is being reasonably met". It added: "If the general level of interest rates does not fall or rises further, then a further increase in building society rates will need to be considered."

Mr Leonard Williams, president of the Building Societies Association, said that "some sort of equilibrium" had to be struck between investors, borrowers and prospective borrowers.

The speed with which societies can move to a competitive interest rate structure, depended very much on the general level of interest rates, he said.

Mr Williams acknowledged that with the recent large increases in M.L.R. "societies cannot move immediately to a fully competitive position as this would pose an undue burden on existing borrowers."

The working party examined various proposals that the societies should raise money from the wholesale money markets as well as the private sector. However, it concluded that these borrowings would affect their traditional savings market and that in general the capital markets provide "no genuine alternative source of long-term funds for the industry as a whole."

The report does, however, suggest various ways of improving the flow of funds. In addition to improving the range and conditions of term shares, marketable term shares and a building society certificate of deposits should be considered.

The assumptions upon which the working party has based its conclusions are that a huge increase in net receipts will be necessary in 1980. The estimates are that a monthly net inflow of £510m will be needed this year, rising to £680m net a month by 1985.

There is also the new factor of council house sales. The Government has indicated that it would like some of these to be financed out of building society mortgage finance. If societies are asked to finance 65,000 council house sales a year, they will have to provide another £60m net a month. Keeping the door open, page 19.

EEC decision too late for White Paper

By Caroline Atkinson

The Government is likely to assume, in its next spending White Paper, that it does not get £1,000m topped off its EEC budget contribution. It has been clear that EEC heads of state are unlikely to reach a decision on the Community budget in time to include its effects in the White Paper.

This is expected to be published around March 18, about a week before the Budget which is to be on March 25. Spending decisions have to be taken several weeks before the publication of the White Paper. It now seems that the Government will aim to chop about £1,000m, or perhaps a little more, off its spending plans for next financial year 1980-81.

The Prime Minister said recently on television that she would like to get £2,000m off the spending bill for next year. However, it was hoped that about £1,000m of this would come from wiping out Britain's EEC contribution.

Ministry still hope to get this contribution slashed, but this will probably come as an added bonus for the Budget, rather than be included in the official spending plans.

The Government's decision to reopen its already published plans for spending next year have led it into some timing difficulties. It is now likely that the new plans for 1980-81 will first be announced next month.

possibly in a series of departmental announcements. They will then be published all together in the March White Paper, which will include plans for later years up to 1983-84.

The reason for the piecemeal announcements is that spending bodies have to know how much money they must cut off their programmes as soon as possible. The Government is anxious to avoid leaks of their plans, which will be more likely if they have to tell local authorities, for example, to revise their plans for next year. Hence the Government would rather publish next year's cuts in February.

One possibility is that the Cabinet has decided to chop housing spending through the loans sanctions for local authorities building and through urging councils to put up rents. There will need to be instructions to the local authorities as soon as possible.

The early Budget will round off the rush of economic policy making. Although it is likely to be a hard Budget in the sense that the Government will not give large, if any, net handouts, it is increasingly likely that income tax cuts will be included in the Budget.

The Chancellor last night emphasized the Government's desire to reduce its net contribution to the EEC in a speech to the French Chamber of Commerce.

Controversial chairman of US corporation departs a year early

Mystery surrounds ITT's change at the top

Did Mr Harold Geenen, one of the most dynamic and controversial American businessmen of the last two decades, resign as chairman of International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation of his own accord, or was he pushed?

And just how much money did Mr Geenen obtain from the board in return for the contract that assured him the chairmanship to the end of this year?

More often than not there is an element of mystery about the activities of Mr Geenen and ITT and his departure from the top post is no exception.

ITT's board formally confirmed this week that Mr Rand Araskog, aged 48, has taken over as chairman. Mr Geenen will remain a director and has been given the title of chairman emeritus.

The announcement marks the end of an era at the eleventh largest industrial corporation in the United States.

When Mr Geenen became president of ITT on leaving the Raytheon Company 20 years ago he joined a modest enterprise. He leaves a giant.

Sales rose from \$765m in 1959 to \$19,400m in 1978, while earnings rose from \$29m to \$662m. The growth was largely



Mr Araskog: as tough an individual as his predecessor?



Mr Geenen: retains link with ITT as chairman emeritus.

to resign earlier but others suggested that he decided to leave now to devote more time to other ventures.

Mr Geenen apparently decided some time ago to lead a group of individuals in a venture capital enterprise while still heading ITT. In November this private group bought Allied Chemical Corporation's coke plant in Kentucky for an estimated \$100m. A report in the Wall Street Journal last month noted that ITT itself had considered buying this plant.

It is against this background that speculation has developed that directors of ITT politely sought Mr Geenen's resignation, claiming that his private businesses were in conflict.

Mr Geenen earned a total of \$12.7m in 1978 in salary, benefits and bonuses from ITT and his contract assured him an assortment of benefits plus at least \$850,000 in cash this year.

American press reports that the board bought his contract for \$5m have not been substantiated. Nobody at ITT is talking about how much their former chairman was given to quit.

Frank Vogl
in Washington

Transvaal Gold Mining Companies

ADMINISTERED BY ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION

FINAL DIVIDENDS—FINANCIAL YEARS

ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1979

On January 17, 1980, dividends were declared in South African currency, payable to members registered in the books of the undermentioned companies at the close of business on February 1, 1980, and to persons presenting the relevant coupons detached from share warrants to bearer. A notice regarding payment of dividends on coupon No. 78 detached from share warrants to bearer issued by The South African Land & Exploration Company Limited will be published in the press by the London Secretaries of that company on or about January 25, 1980.

The transfer registers and registers of members will be closed in each case from February 2 to 15, 1980, both days inclusive, and warrants will be posted from the Johannesburg and United Kingdom offices of the transfer secretaries on or about March 6, 1980. Registered members paid from the United Kingdom will receive the United Kingdom currency equivalent on February 28, 1980, of the land value of their dividends (less appropriate taxes). Any such members may, however, elect to be paid in South African currency, provided that the request is received at the offices of the transfer secretaries in Johannesburg or in the United Kingdom on or before February 1, 1980.

The effective rate of non-resident shareholders' tax for the undermentioned companies is 15 per cent.

The dividends are payable subject to conditions which can be inspected at the head and London offices of the companies and also at the offices of the companies' transfer secretaries in Johannesburg and the United Kingdom.

Name of company (each of which is incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)	Dividend No.	Rate of dividend per share
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East Dapagelone Mines Limited	73	10 cents
The South African Land and Exploration Company Limited	77	20 cents
Transvaal Gold Mining and Mining Company Limited	47	320 cents
Western Deep Levels Limited	36	225 cents

By order of the boards of directors of the companies
Secretaries
per: C. R. BULL
Divisional Secretary
Anglo American Corporation of South Africa Limited
40 Holborn Viaduct
London EC1P 1AJ
Johannesburg
January 16, 1980

Office of the United Kingdom Transfer Secretaries:
Charter Consolidated Limited
P.O. Box 102
Charter House
Fleet Street
London EC4A 3DF
Aldford
Kent TN24 8EQ.

THE POUND			
	Bank	Bank	Bank
	buys	seils	buys
Australia \$	29.50	2.03	11.04
Austria Sch	29.50	27.50	111.00
Belgium Fr	68.00	64.50	110.00
Canada \$	2.69	12.12	9.30
Denmark Kr	12.67	8.27	9.30
Finland Mk	9.44	9.04	9.30
France Fr	6.57	3.66	9.30
Germany Dm	100.00	10.80	9.30
Greece Dr	11.40	1830.00	9.30
Hongkong \$	1955.00	540.00	9.30
Italy Lira	1955.00	540.00	9.30
Japan Yen	1955.00	540.00	9.30
Netherlands Gld	4.48	4.25	9.30



Mitsubishi, Nissan look to US and Italy

Mr Yoshitoshi Sone, president of Mitsubishi Motor Corporation said in Tokyo that he is to visit the United States next month for talks with Chrysler Corporation on closer links, including a joint development of small trucks which Chrysler wants to market in the United States from 1983.

Chrysler at present has a 15 per cent stake in Mitsubishi. He said the proposed establishment of a new sales network for Mitsubishi cars in the United States market will be taken up at the coming talks.

Nissan Motor Company also says it is discussing a possible linkup with the Italian Alfa Romeo concern. Sources said negotiations between the two companies were believed to involve the joint development of economy engines for small cars.

Montedison plan

Montedison SPA has reached a rough agreement with the state energy group Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi and the Italian government on how to restructure its loss-making synthetic fibres operations. Industry sources in Milan say. The plan is being submitted to Montedison's creditor banks, which will have to put up at least half the fresh capital involved.

Greek banks strike

Greek bank workers have begun a 10-day strike that is expected to bring the nation's economy to a near-standstill. The action is in support of 30 per cent pay increases and a return to former working hours. The government has limited wage increases to 11 per cent in an effort to hold down inflation.

Bonn steel pay offer

Metal employers in Sued-wuerttemberg - Hohenzollern have offered a pay rise of 4.3 per cent to 130,000 workers in the region's metal industry. An identical offer for steel makers in North Rhine-Westphalia. The metal workers union, IG Metall, wants an increase of 10 per cent. Negotiations are continuing.

EEC oil price surge

The European Community price of imported oil shot up sharply in the three weeks ending January 7 as a result of the increases decided in December by the oil cartel, the Commission's latest oil bulletin issued in Brussels shows. The total increase shown is 10.9 per cent, up from 9.2 per cent three weeks earlier.

\$243m pipe deal

Four Japanese steel companies have reached agreement to export to Saudi Arabia about 260,000 tonnes of steel pipes worth nearly \$243m (about £107m) industry sources in Tokyo say. The companies are Nippon Steel, Sumitomo Metal Industries, Nippon Kokan and Kawasaki Steel.

Electrical equipment makers face hold-up over approval certificates

Inquiry into safety test delays

Serious delays in issuing safety certificates by the British Approvals Service for Electrical Equipment in Flammable Atmospheres (BASEEFA) are to be investigated. The Government has set up a study group of industrialists to look into the delays in the issuing of safety approval certificates for equipment made by British companies. Some companies who applied for certificates three or more years ago still have not received them.

Until companies get certificates it means their goods cannot be offered for sale either in this country or abroad. The effects on the export trade in particular, a sector in which British companies have a high reputation, will be an important part of the investigation.

During the past year companies have been turning to official testing organisations in other EEC countries to get clearance certificates, but there are difficulties in doing this and many feel that the value of a British certificate is greater.

Mr Patrick Mayhew, Under-Secretary of State for Employment, who has set up the study group under the chairmanship of Mr Denis Johnson, a director of Tube

Investments, has given an indication of the scale of the delays at BASEEFA. The organisation has its headquarters at Buxton, Derbyshire, is staffed by civil servants and administered by the Government's Health and Safety Executive.

Last October the number of applications awaiting approval at BASEEFA numbered 760. Only 30 per cent of the applications received during 1979 up to October had been cleared by then, and there were 46 per cent of the 1978 applications and 23 per cent of the 1977 applications still outstanding from the previous year.

The study group has already been told of one application still outstanding from 1973 - the year after BASEEFA was established - but some applications are dealt with within six months.

Although there is no question in the industry about the high standing of BASEEFA's work there have been difficulties about delays almost from its inception. One of the issues the study group will consider is whether staff should be increased, although the situation is regarded as being so serious that temporary arrangements with other testing facilities in this country are likely to be considered.

Equipment tested by BASEEFA covers

a wide range of items, from flame-proof motors, switches and starters to underwater flameproof television cameras. Much of the equipment is used in petrochemical installations, including oil rigs, and in mines.

Because some of the equipment is heavy it makes it difficult for companies to test pass BASEEFA and send products for testing on the Continent. Hundreds of companies are involved, from giants like the General Electric Company to many smaller ones.

Mr Johnson, a former president of the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Association (BEAMA) which has campaigned for Government action on the delays, said that more companies appeared to have applied to EEC countries for certificates. Last year BASEEFA received only 419 applications - within its capacity of around 500 a year - but true demand had been estimated at about 900.

"The delays are a serious restriction on business. It could easily lead to a demotivation of research work," Mr Johnson said.

Derek Harris

£1,477m spending plan by UK brewers

By Our Commercial Editor

Britain's brewers are to invest £1,477m in the next three years, more than £880m of it in the retailing sector of the industry where it will be used to develop and improve public houses.

This was announced yesterday by Mr Derrick Holden-Brown, chairman of the Brewers' Society, who said the investment was being undertaken despite forecasts that the beer market would show marginally slower growth in the eighties compared with the past two decades. A growth of 2 per cent a year is expected, making a market of marginally over 50 million bulk barrels.

This year the brewers have revised their earlier forecasts down to 4.3 million bulk barrels. This takes account of the worsening economic conditions and expected customer

resistance over the recent round of price increases. But they are making the assumption that the summer will be better than the past two years.

This year's brewery investment will be around £500m, half going into the retail trade and the rest into brewery plant and distribution. The 40 per cent balance of the three-year investment plan will also go into increasing brewery capacity and distribution improvements.

Much brewery investment has gone to increasing larger capacity which, if this growth market slowed, could still be used to brew ales or other beers.

Lager accounts for about 30 per cent of the market but some observers have been forecasting a slowdown. The take-home market in lager could be near saturation point, it has been suggested.

But Mr Holden-Brown said



Mr Derrick Holden-Brown: Lager most important growth product.

larger continued to be the most important growth product, with segmentation into several lager types now happening. Premium grades were taking more of the market and sales of the lighter lagers were also growing in volume.

Watney forced to close beer bottling plant

Bottling of beer at the Raven Row, East London, plant of Watney Mann, part of Grand Metropolitan, is to stop in April with the loss of 300 jobs. Serious corrosion has been found in part of the metal skeleton of the 50-year-old building and repairs have been found to be impracticable.

Raven Row is an important

bottling centre for Watney, and the company's other plants will be able to cope with only part of the shortfall in capacity. Until alternative premises are created, 10 per cent of Watney bottling will be contracted out to other brewers.

Warehousing and distribution is to continue at Raven Row and there is no physical danger to workers in the bottling hall.

Watney said yesterday. Re-development plans for the site are now being considered, but it is unlikely that a new bottling plant would be built there. The 300 workers involved in the closure, including some senior managers are likely to face redundancy, although efforts to find other jobs within the company are being made.

635 dockers to go on Merseyside

By R. W. Shakespeare

Another 635 Liverpool dockers will lose their jobs this year under a new voluntary severance plan which seems certain to be approved by a meeting of the National Docks Labour Board next week.

The scheme, which is supported by Mr Jimmy Symes, docks district secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union, will cut the waterfront labour force on Merseyside to 4,800. At their peak the docks employed more than 15,000 men.

Last year 750 dockers left the port voluntarily with redundancy payments of up to £8,500 for a man with 20 years service. The docks still have an average daily surplus of about 1,000 men.

'Difficult period' for Anglo-Soviet trade

Anglo-Russian trading relationships are entering a "very difficult" period because of the political repercussions of the events in Afghanistan, Mr John Smith, Opposition spokesman on trade, said in London yesterday at a meeting of the British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce.

Although the response of Western governments to Russia's intervention in Afghanistan was still being considered, the conclusion that there would be an adverse impact, particularly on Anglo-Soviet trade, had to be drawn, he said. At previous times of political difficulty - such as the early 1970s - this trade had deteriorated sharply.

There was a sense of pessimism about economic growth apparent in most countries and there was a danger this would exacerbate present difficulties.

"It is important that the world's political leaders must remain committed to political détente between East and West so we can divert military expenditure into economic expansion."

Ways of improving trade needed to be considered. A closer examination into ways of improving the techniques of trading should be made to deal with factors like currency, compensation trading and co-operation agreements. Russia ought to consider directing Western investment into the Soviet Union, Mr Smith said.

Doubt over MG bid from Aston Martin

By Edward Townsend

The possibility of a cash offer being made by a consortium of companies led by Aston Martin for BL's MG sports car operations, became uncertain yesterday when the potential purchasers said some matters were still to be decided.

BL had imposed a deadline of Wednesday night for an offer to be made, but this passed without any communication being received from the consortium.

In a statement yesterday Aston Martin said that its chief executive was in touch with BL and, should the outstanding issues be settled, the consortium would put in a bid early next week. There would be no further public developments until then.

BL has delayed implementation of its plans for the MG factory at Abingdon in Oxfordshire because of a probable offer from the consortium. Four deadlines have been set by BL and executives were taken by surprise yesterday when the consortium indicated that a further meeting was needed.

BL plans to end MG car production at the end of this year and use the Abingdon factory for a new medium-sized and special vehicle plant. The export packing operation will be transferred from the Cowley plant at Oxford where assembly of the new medium range car, to be built in collaboration with Honda of Japan, will take place.

It is believed that the offer from the consortium will be for the factory and use of the MG name, although BL has already made clear it will not sell the marque. It has also said that any offers for MG must be particularly attractive to compensate for the future programme already formulated for Abingdon.

BL dealers in the United States have been vociferous in demanding that the MG line be retained. The company has told them that production will be maintained until the end of the year with most of the output earmarked for the American market. After 1980, the cars will no longer comply with new Federal emission regulations and will be withdrawn.

BL is also facing pressure from both sides of the House of Commons not to phase out the MG.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wrong thinking on pension plans

From the Chairman, the National Association of Pension Funds
Sir, Raymond Nottage's one-man campaign against funded pension schemes has taken a new turn with his article on contracting out in your issue of January 14. His approach is so illogical and one-sided that it is hard to imagine it will be seriously by anyone, but perhaps we ought to set the record straight on a couple of points.

Before doing so, let me make it clear that the National Association of Pension Funds has never taken sides on the question of contracting out. During the consultative period prior to the relevant legislation, our objective was to secure terms which were fair to all concerned, whether contracted out or not. The fact that the majority of pension funds in membership, though by no means all, chose to contract out owed more, I suspect, to industrial relations than to purely financial considerations.

The essence of the contracting out bargain is that the pension fund relieves the state of a future liability in exchange for a reduction in current contributions. It does not need a mass of figures, merely a modicum of common sense to appreciate that any consequent increase in state contribution rates today must be offset by lower rates in future years.

By placing the so-called National Insurance Fund on a sounder financial footing, we are paving the way for the payment of more adequate pensions in future, from state and occupational schemes combined.

Mr Nottage can sustain his argument only by taking the short-term view and ignoring

future costs - that is the essence of the "pay as you go" philosophy - but he really cannot be allowed to get away with his ludicrous claim that contracting out is a bad bargain for everyone. It would be less absurd to claim it as a good bargain for everyone. Each employer, after all, in consultation with his employees (a point Mr Nottage chooses to overlook), has decided freely whether to contract out or not, in the light of the particular circumstances surrounding that employment. Why should we assume that they have all made the wrong decision?

It is typical of the long-sighted Nottage logic that he ends by proposing the formation of an Association of Contracted In Employees and, although he knows they would represent only a minority of those employed in the private sector, goes on to claim that "such an association would speak for most of the nation's wealth-producing companies and their employees".

In defending the right of employers and employees to choose for themselves whether to contract out or not, I am quite sure that neither school of thought has a monopoly of wisdom or of wealth creation. Yours truly,

MICHAEL PILCH, Chairman, National Association of Pension Funds, Prudential House, Wellesley Road, Croydon CR9 9XY.

From Mr W. A. Sibly
Sir, Mr Nottage's article (January 14) is fallacious, apparently because he has failed to appreciate that the total current cost of the National

Insurance scheme is simply the amount required to pay the current level of benefits to the present beneficiaries. Since this total is determined by the current liabilities, even the total elimination of the contracting-out option would in no way reduce public expenditure on benefits or the amount of National Insurance contributions required to support that expenditure.

The contracting-out option becomes relevant only when considering the way in which the total cost is divided between different employers and employees - i.e. the National Insurance contribution rates. As a result of the numbers contracted-out, there is a higher general contribution rate, which is then reduced for those who are contracted-out. Thus the latter pay a proportionately smaller share of the unchanged total of contributions. This is in return for their undertaking to relieve the National Insurance scheme of a steadily increasing proportion of its future liabilities.

Their contribution reduction is directly related to the liabilities which they undertake. It is calculated by the Government Actuary on a basis which most expert opinion considers equitable and which Mr Nottage appears to accept in his concluding paragraph as "favourable terms".

Yours faithfully,
W. A. SIBLY, Assistant General Manager (Pensions), Legal & General Assurance Society Limited, Temple Court, 11 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 4TP.

Lessons from World Bank

From Mr William Clark

Sir, The article by Frank Vogl in regard to the publication of the World Bank's Operations Evaluation Report (Business News, December 3) deserves a response because it misrepresents the purpose of this very valuable and controversial effort. It is valuable, I believe, because it is a serious effort to learn from our failures. It is controversial because it puts the public in the position of learning so as to teach others to avoid our mistakes.

Development is a risky and pioneering field, and the World Bank's effort is almost entirely in areas where the angels of the commercial investing world

fear to tread. Yet 94 per cent of our projects achieve their stated objectives.

But 6 per cent do not; we want to know why, so that we can avoid further mistakes. And we dare to tell this publicly (who else does?) so that our partners in the development effort can benefit. If 94 per cent success is inefficient failure then we have achieved New-Speak four years ahead of scheduled.

Your obedient servant,
WILLIAM CLARK, Vice President, External Relations, The World Bank, Washington, D.C. 20433, United States.

An audience interest in engineering our future

From Mr K. A. Yeomans

Sir, Although I cannot verify the accuracy of the information that 5,000 copies were originally sent out of the report of the Finistone committee of inquiry, there is no doubt at all about the interest of the public in the detailed findings.

All of the initial delivery to HMSO in Holborn, London, were sold within the first hour and although there was a further delivery that afternoon there were none left by noon the following day.

Although the summary Engineering our Future was available, it is the fuller account, with a more detailed study of the review of the evidence on which the recommendations have been made, that is sought by those who seek to judge the merits of the statements that are being made by the various pressure groups now moving in to turn specific recommendations (sometimes seemingly out of context) to their sectoral advantage.

Are more highly academically trained engineers also going to solve the problems and why is it thought that licensing of engineers is going to have an effect on the quality of our designs over the full range of products in which our manufacturers compete in home and overseas markets? To what extent must we also pay regard to the craft, skilled and technician workers who are needed to support these "best people who are to be encouraged into industry"? All too often we are beginning to hear the pleas of those

who feel that what is needed is a more powerful voice for the engineering professions. This, I suggest, is the herald of the bureaucratic approach that has failed us so often in the past. What is really needed is not a powerful voice but an attentive audience and from the evidence of the queue in HMSO in Holborn I feel sure that it exists.

Yours faithfully,
K. A. YEOMANS, 306 Unbridge Road, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, WD3 2YL.

From Mr D. Reeves

Sir, Many government ministers have for some time made statements that the status of the professional engineer should be improved. It is to get it self out of its present difficulties. The Prince of Wales also made a similar statement recently on television.

However, when the Government had its opportunity to improve the situation for its professional engineers in the Civil Service, it did nothing, and the recent pay awards have given the engineer at principal level £729 per annum less than his counterpart in the administrative grade.

Once again the arts graduate in Britain is thought to be more important than an engineering graduate.

Yours faithfully,
D. REEVES, 135 Hall Lane, E4, January 10.

BL as part of a European group

From Mr J. N. Galan

Sir, One of the leading German newspapers, the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* reported on December 27 last that according to projections of various motor car manufacturers the next 10 years will be characterized by many concentrations in the car industry. This is based on the expectation that by 1990 no manufacturing company will be able to survive which does not produce at least two million passenger cars per annum.

It is therefore expected that companies like BMW and Porsche in Germany, Alfa Romeo in Italy, Saab in Sweden and Leyland in Britain, among others, will have to be taken over by larger groups.

In your leading article on December 28, you state that British Leyland's Honda deal makes sense, because it will enable the company to produce a medium-sized new model shortly that BL expects to sell some 90,000 of these cars annually. A very small number indeed.

It will take a few more years, extensive reorganization and further vast sums of money from the Government before BL will be able to bring three or four more internationally salable models. It seems unrealistic for BL to be able to produce and sell annually two million passenger cars by 1990.

Would it not make economic sense for BL to become now a very soon part of a large and successful European group instead of wasting a lot of time, effort and money only to be forced in a few years' time by economic realities to give up its independence?

Yours faithfully,
J. N. GALAN, El Lugano, Guadalupe Alta, San Pedro Alcantara, (Malaga), Spain.

Squeaking pips

From Mr Jim Daley

Sir, Could the reason for the recent telephone charge increases be due to the Post Office using lemon powder to improve the frequency of the pips?

Yours faithfully,
JIM DALEY, 73 Selby Lane, Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5AQ.

Insuring against strikes in UK

From Dr J. M. Hammersley

Sir, Sir Michael Edwards's call for chauvinism raises various issues beyond BL for all those who seek to buy British or to earn foreign currency in times of industrial unrest. My own problem is a small and modest one, but doubtless there will be other people in similar situations; and the effects add up.

I have to spend the last week of March at a Canadian university. The arrangement (unlike that at some transatlantic universities) does not require me to travel on a Canadian or United States airline; but they did ask me to be as economical as possible. Universities everywhere are feeling financial strain and we all have to tighten our belts, which is fair enough.

I bought an Apex ticket on British Airways. For the benefit of engineers like myself, who have not previously travelled in this way, I should explain that an Apex ticket is roughly one third of the price of a full-fare economy class ticket. It must be obtained a long time before departure, and that it is non-transferable. I must travel on the date and flight specified. Later this week, British Airways went on strike.

I telephoned British Airways to ask what would happen if they were still on strike at the

end of March. This, they said, was a hypothetical question that they could not answer: it would depend on circumstances, they would do their best to put me on another airline as soon as possible, but cut-price tail-enders might suffer considerable delay. Would I get my money back if they failed to get me a flight on the specified day? I got the impression that the answer is yes, though I do not have anything in writing.

My travel agent sent me a proposal form for an insurance policy intended to give cover against airline strikes. One clause gives a daily allowance for up to three days' delay; but this is no use to me, because I could not fulfil my contract in Canada if I were delayed.

Another clause offers "reimbursement of that proportion of the cost, which is irrecoverable from any other source, in the event of the abandonment of the journey". I asked the insurance company if this would cover the difference between my fare and the Apex, including the possibility of having to travel first class if all economy class seats were taken on other airlines. No, they said, you would not have abandoned the journey and you would get nothing from us.

And, if I did abandon the journey, anything for my Apex

ticket? Probably not from us, they said, because you ought to be able to claim against British Airways. That seemed to render the policy rather nugatory. Since then I have been looking at quite a few policies. None give me what I need, and many have "irrecoverable" clauses. If this was a logical world, the mind would boggle at the ramifications of the Russell paradox produced when two "irrecoverable" clauses collide.

I once nearly got caught in an airline strike in Osaka. I learnt then that employees on Japan Air Lines have many businesses in Japan; a bonus incentive scheme geared to company profits. Their strike was settled in a matter of hours.

Might I, through the courtesy of your columns, ask for a clear statement from British Airways about the position of Apex ticket holders in the event of strikes, and also whether any insurance broker in London can give me a quotation for what I need? Or should I ask the Canadians to place the business themselves on the Toronto contingency market? Yours faithfully,
J. M. HAMMERSLEY, Trinity College, Oxford OX3H, January 11.



1979 1978
Pre-tax profits £26.2m £24.6m

Dividends paid and proposed 10.5p 10.5p

Copies of the Annual Report for the year to 30th September 1979 will be mailed to shareholders shortly and will be available from J E Wright, Secretary, Tate & Lyle Limited, Sugar Quay, Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6DQ



The year 1979 Comments by the Chairman, the Rt Hon Earl Jellicoe

"We have made significant progress with the major programme of rationalisation and renewal we have set for the Group. These tasks carry a heavy burden of related costs and we have had to conduct our operations in a trading environment which, in many areas, remains difficult."

"Our ability to generate adequate profits has, as a result, been limited. Group trading profit fell from £36.4 million in 1978 to £30.1 million, although the contribution from exceptional items enabled us to show a modest improvement at the pre-tax level, from £24.6 million to £26.2 million."

"It is important - for EEC consumers and taxpayers as well as for our cane sugar refineries - that the Common Market's wasteful over-production of sugar beet should be cut. We welcome the EEC Commission's proposals for the 1980/85 sugar regime."

"I stated last year that we should not expect to see any material improvement in our overall performance in the near future. Nevertheless, we are committed to pursuing vigorously programmes of action to restore Tate & Lyle to a more satisfactory level of profitability."

MONEY SUPPLY

The following are the figures released for the monthly amount of money stock, seasonally adjusted at the mid-month dates:

	M1	M2	M3	% change over three months
	£000m	£000m	£000m	
1979				
May	26.8	52.1	13.9	8.1
June	26.6	52.7	9.7	17.2
July	27.2	53.1	7.1	14.3
Aug	27.2	53.6	6.1	12.4
Sept	27.3	53.9	11.5	9.9
Oct	28.2	55.0	15.7	15.1
Nov	1,550	55.3	13.1	13.1
Dec	27.6	55.5	4.6	12.1

MONTHLY CHANGE IN STERLING M3 AND DOMESTIC CREDIT EXPANSION EM

	Domestic credit expansion	Annual growth rate	Annual growth rate
	£m	%	%
May	987	132	129
June	885	6	278
July	438	13	457
Aug	1,057	369	149
Sept	925	322	70
Oct	1,550	384	92
Nov	1,257	882	23
Dec	253	195	237

CUMULATIVE TOTAL FOR 1978-79

	Sterling M3	Domestic credit expansion	Annual growth rate	Annual growth rate
	£m	£m	%	%
1978	4,277	11.5	7,363	11,045

CONSUMER SPENDING

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Gilts pause for breath

The gilt-edged market was showing distinct signs of cooling off yesterday. That is hardly surprising after the pace of the recent advance, and one could well argue that the market is now proving extremely resilient. There were signs yesterday, however, that overseas investors are not prepared to trust the market that far at this stage and some may have been taking their profits.

Certainly, overseas money represents a potentially destabilising factor, so the market must now be crossing its fingers that the Government is going to end the steel strike in a way that is not going to cause a major upset in confidence—a consideration that cannot make it particularly easy for the authorities to decide whether or not to produce a new gilt issue this afternoon.

Meanwhile, the December money supply figures are much as expected, with sterling M3 rising 0.4 per cent to bring the annualised rate of growth after six months of the present target period to 11½ per cent. After good gilt sales in January, it may well be that sterling M3 is now back inside the top end of the target range, but the authorities, quite wisely, are not yet prepared to accept that an improved trend has been firmly established. Noises coming out of the banks recently have not been particularly encouraging on the present trend in lending.

Gestetner

A casualty of sterling

Gestetner is blaming much of the £7m drop to £19.1m in full year pre-tax profits on sterling's strength which has caused a straight £663,000 loss on the translation of overseas income but more punishingly forced the UK manufacturing operations supplying overseas subsidiaries to raise prices to maintain volume.

But the half-yearly figures have shown a progressively deteriorating trend over the last three years with the latest six months almost two-thirds down at £7.7m. And worries that Gestetner is now saddled with an out-of-date product line are starting to have more substance.

It is still pointing to only a 1 per cent fall in the latest year as an indication that the stencil market is not over the hill. Gestetner has been slow to respond to the challenge of plain paper copiers, which still only account for 13 per cent of its sales, from Japan. The balance sheet is already starting to see some of the strains from this reduced profitability with retentions more than halved—after a £4.6m exchange loss—to £8.1m liquid funds down £11m at £23m and borrowings £6m higher to finance higher stocks and debtors.

Gestetner is now looking a classic example of a company that has been slow to change. With profits heading lower for the third year on the trot, it would look like ideal bid material were it not protected by the non-voting shares. The shares dropped 3p to 73p yesterday where they yield 10½ per cent.

Dixons

Back to basics

Even a 70 per cent boost in property dealing profits to £1.2m has not saved Dixons Photographic from another lacklustre showing at the half-year stage; profits up 7.5 per cent at £5.9m disappointed the market and left the shares 8p lower at 97p.

Once again the Westons pharmaceuticals side proved a villain of the piece turning in a fractional loss against last time's £365,000 profit, but Dixons overseas profits dipped by more than a quarter to £1m as a result of product delays.

However, profits from the Dixons shops, selling audio equipment, cameras and so forth, jumped more than a fifth to £2.4m.

Now, with the disposal of Westons shops near completion, Dixons could have at last removed a significant brake on its performance although it is still left with a slumped down wholesale pharmaceuticals operation.

Pressure on consumer spending could now slow progress and trading has been quiet since Christmas. Full-year profits of £12.5m against last year's £10.7m seem likely, though the electronics revolution

over the next few years fully justifies a growth rating reflected in the likely yield of under 5 per cent.

Turner & Newall

Rhodesian possibilities

Turner and Newall has discovered that its two Rhodesian subsidiaries have increased net assets by £86m to £92m during the fourteen years since UDI. This is significant for two reasons. First, it acknowledges the potential importance to T & N of its Rhodesian asbestos interests at a time when profits growth has shown signs of pressure. Second, the reorganisation plan which includes a 1980 profit forecast of £12m, including £333,000 from the previously unknown gold mines, fits in with T & N policy of telling shareholders as much as possible about the Rhodesian assets and it is now understandably anxious to show how the local operation fared.

But the group does not shy away from the enormous variables that still exist with the forthcoming March election, the threat of continued war and the possibility that inflation will damage profit margins in future.

All this pushed the shares up by 8p to 142p where the yield is still 11½ per cent. That suggests that the Rhodesian bonus—admittedly a possibility rather than a probability at this stage—is in for nothing.

Grand Met.

Time for consolidation

Last summer's opportunistic £78m rights issue coupled with a high level of retentions and despite capital spending of around £125m has brought Grand Metropolitan's gearing down from 66 per cent to 42½ per cent. That together with a set of 1979 figures, showing profits on an adjusted basis up from £116m to £139m, and the prospect



Mr Maxwell Joseph, chairman of Grand Metropolitan.

of perhaps £150m this year suggests that Grand Met is among the best lock-away Blue Chip stocks for the next couple of years.

Moreover, with an 8.214p a share gross dividend, reflecting the final promised at the rights, covered 3½ times there is plenty of scope for a good dividend increase for 1980 when others may find it difficult. Beyond that Grand Met, supported by its heavy capital spending programme over the past few years, will be able to take advantage of growth opportunities when they occur.

A period of consolidation is ahead, then, with a 5.8 per cent yield at 140p to go on with and no obvious reason why the stability should be upset. Hotels, where room rates are lower than average and where a number of major refurbishments have been carried out, should cope with slower business.

Margins have improved on milk and food: the brewery business is gaining market share and wines and spirits would have done even better but for the impact of strong sterling and a weak dollar on US-earnings. That leaves gambling where Grand Met must be a beneficiary from the demise of Ladbrokes' London casinos.

An urgent meeting of Danish parliamentarians took place last night to discuss the plight of the country's economy after another gloomy prognosis, delivered this time by none less than Mr Erik Hoffmeyer, the governor of the Danish National Bank.

The meeting of the Danish Parliamentary Committee on Economic Policy followed the return of the Folketing (Danish parliament) after the Christmas recess and signals in all probability the beginning of the next phase of Denmark's economic crisis.

That Denmark, a stable, democratic state with efficient industry and agriculture, with a near impeccable welfare state and with one of the highest standards of living in the world (the highest in the EEC), should be embroiled in such a crisis must appear bizarre to the outside observer.

To all intents and purposes the country seems to be running smoothly. But that is on the surface. The fact is that, as a Norwegian newspaper recently put it, "Denmark is going to the dogs—albeit on a first class ticket". Not since 1963 has the country had a surplus in its balance of payments. In 1979 its payments deficit had crept up to an alarming 15,000 million crowns (about £1,250m), over twice that for 1978, and its foreign debt had reached a huge 80,000 million crowns or just over 23 per cent of its gross domestic product, with reserves of only 18,000m.

Why all this alarm that it finally began to dawn on the Danes that they were heading for the brink.

In a now historic television interview in October, the outgoing Social Democratic Finance Minister, Mr Knut Heinesen, now chairman of the party's parliamentary group, predicted that the country was inexorably set on a slide towards economic abyss. He put the nadir of the slide in years away, unless something drastic was done.

By "nadir", Mr Heinesen

meant International Monetary Fund intervention.

Mr Hoffmeyer's statement last week to the leading conservative daily *Berlingske Tidende* more precisely analysed the country's present plight. He said that Denmark had passed three of the six stages on the way to total economic downfall. It was, in his view, in a critical respect because of its ever-increasing deficit, which in turn was depriving it of its freedom to conduct an independent financial policy and it was being forced to pay excessively high interest rates (up to 18 per cent) on long-term borrowing.

"Denmark is now regarded as economically irresponsible", Mr Hoffmeyer said. "Our credibility erodes when our politicians explain year after year that they have to reduce our deficit and it transpires that the deficit remains the same or grows even bigger".

The last three steps towards economic doom are, according to Mr Hoffmeyer, that the Danish economy will have to be administered by the European Economic Community and/or the IMF, after which private creditors will refuse to grant the country loans, resulting in the final collapse of the social welfare system and political instability.

After last night's meeting Mr Anker Joergensen, the Prime Minister, said that he basically agreed with Mr Hoffmeyer's statement, but the government would wait until the next Economic Council report in March before deciding on further action.

Why are things in such a sorry state in a seemingly rich little country like Denmark? With hindsight one can now say that the boom years of the sixties were fuelled by continuous growing external deficits, with no action taken, culminating in the oil crises of the seventies which sent the economy into a tailspin. Denmark relies on oil for about 80 per cent of its energy requirements and is thus vulnerable. With no natural re-

Keeping the home loan door open—at a price

Margaret Stone

money markets by intermediate needs to be tested, before the alternative funding route is jettisoned.

There are, however, practical and legal limitations as to the amount of money that can be brought in through ventures such as the £20m loan facility that was recently arranged by merchant bankers S. G. Warburg for the Anglia, Hastings and Thanet Building Society.

Although £8m has already been taken up by borrowers since the beginning of December—paying 2½ points above MLR—the loans are special ad hoc and not part of the 10 per cent of total lending, £30m in Anglia's case.

Meantime, there can be doubt that much greater emphasis in future is going to be placed on the development of term shares. For a long time, the building society industry has prided itself on its ability to borrow short and lend long—thus breaking the first rule of prudent banking—but no

longer. The longer money sticks with a society the less it needs.

Recent research by the Provincial Building Society shows that when money is held for a mere seven days, then £161m is needed to finance one average mortgage of £12,000 for 25 years; money held for six months means a requirement of £200m to fund a £12,000 mortgage for 25 years; money which sticks for a year, means that only £300,000 is needed; and if it is held for four years, then only £72,000 is needed to fund that £12,000 mortgage over 25 years.

Term shares (from one to five years) now account for 13 per cent of the societies' balances, and the indications are that as much as £30m net a month could be raised for the same average cost of funds.

But even the most devoted fan of term shares would admit that some improvement is needed—particularly if the societies make the term longer. Investors need to be offered an exit route—with appropriate penalties—to meet exceptional emergencies.

More exciting still would be the development of some form

of marketable building society security.

Another option would be the equivalent of the building society certificate of deposit, which preliminary discussions in the City indicate could be viable, provided it was sufficiently large (at least £50,000) and had a fixed rate of interest.

Although the working party is convinced that a 15 per cent mortgage rate is not a deterrent to prospective borrowers—supported by evidence at the top end of the scale from the foreign banks in the United Kingdom—there is a market for wealthier borrowers who do not turn a hair (visibly anyway) at rates nearer 20 per cent—it remains to be seen how the average borrower will react.

First indications from a few of the big building societies suggest that the 15 per cent rate might have a much greater effect on would-be borrowers than previous sharp increases in the mortgage rate.

However, if borrowers do stay away, then of course, the problem of the supply of funds will be solved: by cutting off demand.

Technology

Safer steering for tankers

Finding out the hard way is, alas, an integral part of technological advance. However, the planning, from time to time an unexpected event will happen which causes people to think again and go back to the drawing board—or to redraft regulations. And, again from time to time, an unexpected event is a catastrophe.

In the mid-1950s the accident to the Comet, the world's first jet airliner, illuminated a hitherto unappreciated facet of metal fatigue. In March, 1978, the Amoco Cadiz disaster, in which the supertanker ran aground and caused a huge spillage of oil off the Brittany coast, showed up a defect which called for new thinking on aspects of steering large vessels.

The Amoco Cadiz accident was ironic in its timing. The International Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO), as part of its continuing work on safety at sea, had held a conference on tanker safety and pollution prevention in February, 1978, at which new safety requirements had been agreed.

This move by IMCO, a specialized agency of the United Nations, had followed a series of American tanker accidents in the winter of 1976-77. The new proposals, it was believed, covered every conceivable eventuality. That was in February; in March the Amoco Cadiz proved the experts wrong.

The principal cause of the disaster was attributed to a breakdown of the steering gear, which put the vessel, carrying a cargo of about 220,000 tons of crude oil, on to the Brittany rocks.

Accidents

But the failure of the steering gear on the Amoco Cadiz, it transpired, would not have been avoided even if the safety measures agreed the previous month had already been implemented. (In practice, there is inevitably a period of several years between agreement on recommended changes

and the date on which the resulting requirements come into force.)

There is an analogy between the momentum of a large tanker when it is under way and that of the process of international law-making. Neither the ship nor the legal process can change direction rapidly once a particular course has been set.

Thus the next stage in the implementation of international maritime safety regulations will be the adoption next May of the 1974 Convention on the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS). This will reflect only the pre-Amoco Cadiz improvements in steering gear—but IMCO's later work on revised requirements will also be reviewed in May and provision is being made to implement them reasonably quickly.

IMCO's Maritime Safety Committee is preparing an up-to-date list of recommendations and though the formal outcome will depend on the May review, the committee has already made known its main lines of thought on the new measures that will be proposed.

Against this background, two Scottish companies in the Vickers group—John Hastie & Greenock, and Brown Brothers of Edinburgh—have jointly developed a new version of their existing steering systems which is intended to meet the most severe of the expected IMCO proposals. A key requirement is that a single failure in piping or power units would not impair the integrity of the steering gear.

In the Hastie-Brown solution the failure would be automatically corrected and the steering gear would continue to operate continuously during the change from normal to emergency steering.

In essence this is achieved by enabling the normal steering system, which is based on four hydraulic rams, to be switched over to act as two independent two-ram systems.

Specifically, the system is designed to ensure that: (1) a single failure in the hydraulic system should not prevent a rapid recovery of the ability to steer; (2) any interruption of the ability to steer should not last more than 45 seconds; (3) restoration of at least a limited steering ability should be possible without significant repairs; (4) facilities enabling failures to be isolated should be provided; (5) a means of arresting and holding the rudder should be provided in cases where a complete loss of steering has occurred; (6) the system should isolate a leak before a total loss of oil occurs.

There is sufficient redundancy in the gear, which has four hydraulic rams and two power units, to enable a fault to be isolated. In other words, the system can absorb a failure in one part because the total design offers alternative operating mechanisms in parallel. If a fault does develop the system becomes in effect two independent two-ram systems. The defective half is shut down and the other one controls the rudder.

Overall, the new components in the design are "fail safe", in that their failure would not affect the normal operation of the gear. Applications have been filed for patents covering the system.

The Hastie-Brown equipment is now being tested in sea trials on board a Shell tanker. This latest development aimed at meeting the forthcoming IMCO proposals follows a combined experience by the two companies of supplying earlier types of steering gear to over 25,000 vessels.

Kenneth Owen

Business Diary: Pipe of peace? • Singalong troopie

Rhodesian businessmen are delighted that the EEC foreign ministers are to grant free access to most Rhodesian goods this year.

The first to feel the benefit could be the Rhodesian tobacco industry. This year's auctions on the world's three largest auction floors in Salisbury open in April and with production back to pre-UDI level and a good crop expected, the duty-free export of tobacco could quickly see growers' foreign earnings increase by a fifth or more.

Donald Bullock, president of the Rhodesia Tobacco Auction, said that much of the 14 years lost during the past 14 years could soon be made up. After the United States Rhodesia ground the high quality cigarette in the world.

The first objective of Rhodesian producers is likely to be the British market, which took half the country's production before sanctions were imposed in 1966. The EEC decision would give Rhodesian tobacco an added price advantage over other countries which have supplanted her—India, Korea and Brazil.

Other markets which Rhodesian producers will try to penetrate quickly are France, Germany and Holland. Although Rhodesian beef and sugar have been excluded from the EEC decision, other agricultural products, all major mineral exports and a selected list of manufactured goods will gain heavily from the removal of duty by the Nine and the disappearance of the sanctions surcharge.

The benefits will spill over into expanded production, increased employment and better wages, Bullock said.

Phase II—Troopie songs

A souvenir that many British businessmen are now bringing back from Southern Rhodesia at present is a record made in South Africa by John Edmond (above).

Edmond has cornered the Rhodesian market in "Troopie songs" or barrack-room ditties that can be sung either to or by that name he will be singing about February's one-man, one-vote elections remains to be seen.

He has a pleasant, light tenor voice and a nimble grasp of pop music styles that can rise above the turgid and occasionally blood-thirsty tone of his lyrics.

For instance, there is a calypso-style song from his Phase II album which deals with infiltration over the Zambezi River by fighters, terrorists/freedom fighters—whose words can be adapted for singing for almost any unit in the Rhodesian forces.

It's called *The Happy Safari*, and goes thus:

"I saw a Hippopotamus. He was making lots of fuss. There was something stuck in his throat. It was a terr in a blow-up boat."

Shops in Salisbury were just about emptied of Edmond's records over Christmas, although what name he will be singing about February's one-man, one-vote elections remains to be seen.

Competition on Madison Avenue for the advertising account about to be awarded by De Lorean Motor Company has been intense. In the summer De Lorean will start producing £8,000 sports cars from a new plant in West Belfast and a big promotional campaign in America is being planned. One adventurous agency hired a light aircraft and flew round the Manhattan skyscraper where De Lorean has offices trailing a neon sign to pitch for the account.

After a decade in which the deputy governors of the West German Federal Bank have made more of a name for themselves abroad than at home, the number two post in Frankfurt is once again in the possession of a man who is a specialist on domestic monetary affairs.

Dr Helmut Schlesinger has taken over as deputy to Federal Bank president Karl Otto Poehl from the beginning of this year.

Unlike his job-hopping chief, the 55-year-old Schlesinger has long been one of the key figures in the "engine room" of the Federal Bank. His career in Frankfurt stretches back to 1952 when he joined the Bank Deutscher Laender, the forerunner of the present bank.

Throughout, he has been associated with the economic and statistical department and is the Federal Bank's guru on monetary policy. In this late capacity he can claim to have had a strong indirect influence on recent economic and political history in Britain, as our conversion to money supply after February's one-man, one-vote elections remains to be seen.

Backing up Poehl as the new "foreign minister" of the Federal Bank will be Dr Leonhard Gleske, who is now sure to become a familiar figure on the international monetary circuit as he shuttles between meetings.

Gleske is also an old Bank Deutscher Laender hand, but spent several years in private banking and at the EEC Commission. It was in the mid 1970s that he left the undoubted calm of the presidency of the rate committee in Brussels to take responsibility for the Federal Bank's currency policies.

The fact that David Somerset has taken over from John Page as chief cashier of the Bank of England, as the man whose signature goes on banknotes, may not be of great interest to anybody outside the Old Lady—especially since banknotes disappear from the wallet at lightning speed these days—but one fact ought not to go unrecorded.

It is that in Somerset we have, so far as is known, the first instance of a rival house signing the bank notes bearing the picture of the House of Windsor.

Somerset is related to the Plantagenets, whose last monarch was Richard III—he of the hump and the Olivier smear—who departed this life on Bosworth Field in 1485.

Somerset according to *Business Diary's* columnist genealogist, is related to an illegitimate branch of the Duke of Beaufort's family, is 19th in descent from John O'Gaunt and so forth back to kinsman King Richard.

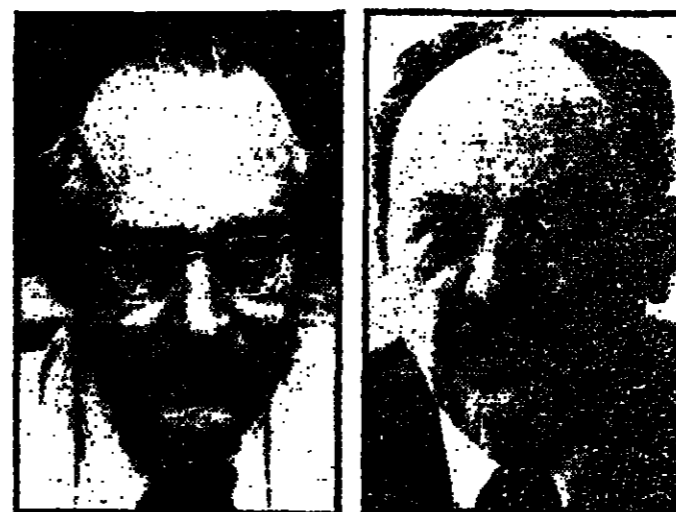
The new chief cashier is also a cousin of HM the Queen via the Duke of Wellington's family to whom the Queen Mother is related. Noteworthy, ahem?

Royalty joining the union ranks? Apparently this has happened in Brighton. Prince Wilmar, next in line to be chief of the 2,000-strong Akwapim tribe in Ghana has been reported in the *Five Brides Union* after qualifying yesterday as a fireman.

Ross Davies

High-level talks on the economy took place in Copenhagen last night

Can the Danes pull back from the brink?



Mr Erik Hoffmeyer (left), governor of the Danish National Bank, whose gloomy economic forecasts have brought fresh problems for Mr Anker Joergensen (right), the Prime Minister.

sources of its own, and as yet meagre returns from the North Sea (although 30 per cent of its domestic energy needs could well be satisfied from that source by the late 80s). Denmark pays about 15,000 million crowns a year for imported oil, roughly the same figure as its deficit last year.

The government started taking drastic action last autumn—imposing the toughest economic squeeze in Danish history. After the fall of the 13-month-old Social Democratic-Liberal coalition government headed by Mr Joergensen of Premier Anker Joergensen in the late summer, following failure to agree on economic policy, the Social Democrats won the subsequent October elections, the fifth in eight years.

Mr Joergensen—his Social Democrats the biggest party with 68 seats in the 179-seat Folketing formed a minority government.

With no absolute majority and nine bickering parties to contend with in parliament, it has proved difficult—if not im-

possible—for Mr Joergensen to get the necessary economic measures passed.

After the imposition of a two-month total price, dividends and incomes freeze and a 5 per cent devaluation of the crown—the first unit of the Danish devaluation, as opposed to adjustment, since 1945—the new government bravely presented an 18-point economic austerity package to parliament. The package consisted of a prolongation of the prices and incomes curb until March 1981; increases in capitalised pension, corporation, property and wealth taxes; tax redistribution reforms and adjustments to the wage indexation system (geared consumer prices) to squeeze pay rises further.

To these elements were linked economic democracy measures including the introduction of a compulsory profit-sharing scheme for workers and worker-controlled investment funds—the price the LO (trade union federation) has exacted from the government.

for support for its incomes policy. Opposition in parliament to the economic democracy measures was so great that the government very nearly fell in December.

Fearing that they would give the LO more power, both left and rightist parties opposed the economic democracy measures, which Mr Joergensen had made an inextricable part of the whole package.

In a surprising volte face, Mr Joergensen saved his government at the eleventh hour, avoiding January elections, by dropping the controversial economic democracy measures and watering down the incomes freeze to allow for a 10 per cent ceiling on wages.

The union federation was astonished by the move which has led to a major rift between LO leader Thomas Nielsen and the Social Democrats. It was thus the watered down Bill that was passed by parliament just before Christmas—at about the same time as the meeting in Caracas of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries with its subsequent oil price rises—itsself a cruel blow to the Bill.

It is now doubtful that the Christmas package will suffice. In its revised form it represents an inadequate prescription for staving off the country's economic woes.

Mr Svend Jakobsen, the Danish finance minister, headed before Mr Hoffmeyer's warnings—predicted the need for further stringent economic medicine in the autumn of 1980. This date would seem to be about to be brought dramatically forward with a further adjustment to the crown within the European Monetary System and a fresh package of draconian economic measures. Cuts in public spending and increases in taxes on drink and tobacco—with a possible increase of VAT, now running at a 20.25 per cent across the board—are expected in all likelihood before Easter.

Christopher Follett

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Eurotherm
10 pc rise
fails to
please

Profits of Eurotherm International, the electronic temperature control group which came to market nearly 20 months ago, got a cool reception from the stock market yesterday.

Although sales advanced 23 per cent to £21.6 million—more than half came from overseas—pre-tax profits were only 10 per cent ahead at £2.9 million.

The shares, which were 88 times oversubscribed when the group was floated and have changed hands at 370p in the last year, dropped 4p to 291p.

Pressure on profits growth would have been increased further had Turnbull Control Systems not turned a £300,000 loss into a £300,000 profit.

But against that, there were management problems with their company in France, which contributes 10 per cent to group sales.

Changes have been made, but the group estimates it will take a year before the operation can resume the sort of profits growth Eurotherm has come to expect. In addition the results would have been £200,000 higher but for the strength of sterling.

Dr Jack Leonard, the group managing director, said: "Profitability is not as large as we would have liked to show the world, but we have no problems that we feel we are not in control of, and we see no reason why the current year will not produce further satisfactory results."

The final dividend is 4.284p, giving a total of 6.436p against an interim last time of 3.22p.

Berisford held back
by dull markets

By Michael Priest

Flat commodities market in the second half, with cocoa especially dull, held back profits at S & W Berisford, the merchant group, to £22.2m, an increase of less than 1m.

Interest charges were about half as much again as last year, partly because of slower turnover and partly because of higher interest rates. Delays in payment by customers holding on to their cash and taking advantage of the high interest rates was also a factor.

The company has enjoyed a spectacular growth record. In the decade to September 31, 1978, the end of the previous financial year, earnings grew at an average annual compound rate of 50 per cent. Mr N. G. Hanson, the company's finance director, says this growth cannot be expected to continue indefinitely.

While commodities, mainly

soft ones, constitute about two-thirds of pre-tax profits, the other major contributors are food and drink and metals. Both showed reasonable progress over the year, with the metals sector benefiting from strong aluminium prices. Mr Hanson warned, however, that the steel strike, if prolonged, could bite into these profits.

Analysts regard Berisford as a company with high exposure to fluctuations in commodity markets. It keeps a level book, without much hedging, and therefore depends mainly on turnover.

Group turnover was £217.0m against £134.1m in 1978. The final dividend is 10.714d gross, an increase of 55.8 per cent over last year for shareholders who retained their shares when the group's capital was raised by 10 per cent. The dividend is covered 3.78 times on earnings per share of 28.37p. The shares were unchanged at 146p.

Wigfall debt charge move

By Allison Mitchell

Television rental group Henry Wigfall may be about to come to an arrangement with a finance house to lift the weight of interest charges from the profit and loss account.

In the 28 weeks to October 13 interest amounted to £1.3m, against a previous £900,000 and with borrowings currently reaching £10m this figure will be considerably higher at the year end.

Wigfall currently finances all its own debt and rental business and Mr Richard Morrell, managing director, admitted

yesterday that the group is looking for a way to reduce borrowings.

In 1973 finance house United Dominions Trust was issued with 1.2m shares at 415p a share but this near 25 per cent stake was sold in 1977.

In the six-month period under review pre-tax profits slipped from £300,000 to £270,000 on turnover £2m higher at £22.2m.

The interim dividend has been maintained at 4.3p gross but the directors are making no indication of the year-end figure. The shares, which fell 8p to 210p, now yield a historic 9.2 per cent.

Stock markets

Light profit taking as equities wait for lead

After a 50 point rise in a fortnight and Wednesday's biggest one-day jump since last April the FT 30 index constituents took a breather. But profit taking remained light and buyers were still around. There were losses throughout the list in gilt edged too after weakness at the start but there was only 1.5 off. However, the softer trend resumed and at the close the index was only 4.7 down at 450.8.

It can hardly be said that the trade returns, the threat of a writer strike, the growing bitterness of the steel dispute or the latest money supply figures had an impact.

Vesper settled at 190p after Wednesday's 17p fall from grace. The acquisition of 51 per cent of Havermaire Transport for £1m means money going out, but if the compensation theory is right it is only a matter of time before £18m or so of compensation money will be coming back in.

Last week the authorities forecast an increase in sterling M3 of one per cent in the three weeks to mid December. The news that it rose by 0.4 per cent aroused virtually no response.

The market assumes that a new long tap of up to £1,000m on a partly paid basis on terms in line with the rest of the market will appear this afternoon and waiting for this was enough to explain yesterday's quieter conditions.

The basic mood of the market—fear of being left behind in a nascent bull market—was undisturbed by the day's events.

In business after the official close there was no strong reaction to new moves in the steel dispute. Short falls showed only tiny scattered falls. Foreign buyers seemed once again to be in evidence.

At 10 am the FT Index was down 4.5 but buyers promptly moved in. An hour later it was only 1.5 off. However, the softer trend resumed and at the close the index was only 4.7 down at 450.8.

Leading industrialists best reflected the listless conditions although, after much roiling and froing, they did manage to finish off the bottom. This was best witnessed in ICI which finished only 2p off at 375p. Larger falls of 10p were seen in Fisons at 289p while

Beecham at 123p and Hawker Siddeley at 164p were both 6p lighter. Unilever shed 5p at 475p, but profit taking clipped 4p from Trusthouse Forte following its set of preliminary figures on Wednesday.

However, the market was less kind to Grand Metropolitan, where profits were bung up to expectations, and the share price tumbled 6p to 140p.

The market also took a dim view of the figures from Eurotherm International, a relative newcomer to the market sliding 4p to 291p. Other companies to lose ground after reporting yesterday included Dixons Photographic down 8p at 97p, Henry Wigfall also 8p off at 210p, AGS Research 5p down at 165p with falls of 3p in BET, D'Ad at 122p and Gestetner "A" at 73p.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Div	Pay	Year's
Invac	44.5 (36.6)	1.9 (1.2)	11.54 (12.54)	2.44 (2.28)	1/4
Assoc Paper Ind (F)	—	—	—	1.0 (1.9)	10/4
Avaya Grp (I)	—	—	—	2.5 (1.4)	7/5
AGS Research (I)	13.0 (8.9)	4.7 (1.7)	—	2.5 (1.4)	10/4
W. Berisford (F)	217.0 (134.1)	34.9 (34.4)	28.37 (30.1)	5.0 (2.63)	8/4
S. & W. Berisford	—	—	—	5.0 (2.63)	8/4
Barnago Jute (F)	5.3 (6.7)	0.30 (0.53)	—	1.1 (0.6)	—
Corn Exchange (F)	—	—	—	2.1 (1.6)	—
Curry Furnish (I)	24.2 (22.2)	2.7 (2.7)	2.7 (2.7)	1.5 (1.4)	1/4
W. Cook (I)	2.2 (2.14)	0.29 (0.31)	—	0.6 (0.7)	3/3
Dixons Photo (I)	125.0 (120.0)	5.9 (5.5)	—	1.25 (0.76)	36/2
Eurotherm Int (F)	21.7 (15.7)	1.9 (2.6)	—	2.5 (2.2)	4/4
AGS Research (F)	26.0 (20.0)	1.9 (2.6)	—	1.5 (1.4)	—
A. & J. Geller (I)	2.4 (2.0)	0.40 (0.34)	—	0.5 (—)	—
Gnome Photo (I)	0.78 (0.94)	0.19 (0.25)	—	0.3 (—)	—
Grand Met (F)	2.17 (1.850.0)	0.07 (0.07)	—	0.77 (0.64)	5/3
Glaxo (I)	—	—	—	0.5 (—)	—
Reliant Group (F)	25.3 (22.1)	0.47 (0.10)	—	0.5 (—)	—
Sevill Gordon (I)	13.9 (10.0)	0.72 (0.63)	—	0.32 (—)	—
Hendy (I)	2.0 (2.0)	0.2 (0.2)	—	0.2 (—)	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a—loss.

Adverse comment on Wednesday's report from Tate & Lyle clipped 10p from the price at 160p and profit taking took 1p from Allied Colloids at 125p.

Shares of Rayco soared 7p to 481p on news of a takeover approach by a private company chairman, controlled by its own former chairman, Roy Strudwick.

Turner & Newall proved a bright spot rising 8p to 142p after announcing the re-consolidation of its Rhodesian interests following the recent ceasefire.

Bid rumours helped Devenport Breweries to a 9p rise at 156p while Wolverhampton & Dudley Brewery, rumoured to be the other interested party, remained firm at 279p. Elsewhere in breweries, Balfour & Co. rose 2p to 364p after Mr Eric Morley's optimistic re-

marks upon being elected chief executive and joint chairman. But bid denials left Freidland Doggart 4p off at 127p.

There was strong selling yesterday into Midland Bank's 11p jump to 361p on reports that its merchant bank, Samuel Montagu, had made a killing in silver. Midland flatly denied the rumour and it seems there was a misunderstanding over a stockbroker's report of the bank's dealing position.

Stores had another active session highlighted by a strong performance from House of Fraser 10p up at 135p, after 138p. Rumours persist that Lohr 6p better at 105p, is about to sell its stake in the which in turn was recently mentioned in connection with Debenhams, 2p down at 74p.

Electricals had a quieter time than of late with Rascal unchanged at 205p as Decca, in which Rascal is thought to be ready to make a bid, improved 5p to 330p. Murhead remained nervous ahead of next week's postponed dividend, losing 7p at 241p and Electrocomponents gained a further 2p to 468p in an extremely thin market.

Equity turnover on January 16 was £137.049m (20,133 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Consolidated Goldfields, Imperial Chemicals, Grand Metropolitan, Shell, ICI, Trusthouse Forte, Shell, R.T.Z., Rascal, Rank, Lismo, GEC, Marks & Spencer and Unilever.

Royco's ex-chief wins control

By Our Financial Staff

Jersey-based millionaire property developer Mr Roy Strudwick, former chairman of building group Royco, is bidding to take over the outstanding part of the company he does not already own.

Yesterday, managing Bonnerwick, a subsidiary of Mr Strudwick's company Supreme Investments, announced that it had acquired a 40.95 per cent holding in Royco and was offering 50p a share for the balance of the equity. However, a two-hour buying spree in the market, where the shares opened at 41p, brought the Bonnerwick stake up to 50.02 per cent giving it control.

At 50p a share Royco is valued at £10m.

Royco's financial adviser, Samuel Montagu is currently evaluating the bid and advises shareholders to take no action meantime. However, the merchant bank did admit that there is no other bidder.

Mr Strudwick, who brought the building company to market in 1972, initiated a scheme last year to give shareholders a cash repayment of 20p a share. The £4m came from Royco's large cash pile which resulted from the sale of its land bank. At that time Mr Strudwick had a stake of about 35 per cent in the company.

Mr Strudwick is thought to want to continue to run Royco as a housebuilder and commercial property developer. The shares closed last night at 481p.



Mr Roy H. Strudwick, former chairman of Royco.

American
insurance
giant's
profits jump

From Tony Hilton

New York, Jan 17

Marsh and McLennan, the American insurance giant currently seeking to merge with Lloyds Brokers C. T. Bowring, had a very successful 1979, according to figures released in New York yesterday.

Although revenue for the year was only 11.5 per cent up at \$530m (£234m), net income was 36 per cent higher at \$93.3m, boosted by \$11m from the sale of its 30 per cent stake in British insurance broker Bland Payne.

The improvement would have been yet more marked but for a surge in expenses in the final quarter.

Some three-quarters of the group's revenue comes from insurance services, a further fifth from pension consultancy and advisory services and the rest from other financial management. Meanwhile analysts on Wall Street feel that the strength of the Bowring rebuff makes it unlikely that the Americans will press ahead with a contested bid.

"Insurance broking is a people business," said Miss Joan Zief, of brokers Merrill Lynch. "I think they would find it hard to justify an unfriendly takeover—particularly as this would be right against the pattern of insurance broker acquisitions in the United States in the last 10 years. It is just not done. Nor is it considered wise, and intuitively I don't think Marsh and McLennan would do it."

P.I.'s board says the opening months of the current year have not been easy, but the group is in a much stronger position than it was a few years ago and is better able to withstand any recession.

Sale Tilney's US deals

Sale Tilney has entered into two agreements with the Ransburg Corp of Indianapolis in connection with their joint company—Ransburg-Peabody. Sale will sell its 50 per cent shareholding in the joint company to Ransburg Corp for about £275,000 cash.

Sale will also buy, for cash, the fixed assets, stock and work-in-progress of part of Ransburg-Peabody's business

Transport group slows progress at BET

By Our Financial Staff

A downturn in the contribution from British Electric Transport and 58 per cent owned Rediffusion, coupled to higher interest charges, left overall profits for the group down 10 per cent in the six months to September 30, pre-tax profits increased by £500,000 to £34.8m on turnover up from £334m to £372m.

In the period profits at Rediffusion fell by £1.4m but this was expected to turn in a better performance in the second half.

United Transport, which accounts for around a third of BET's profit, has a financial year which coincides with the

calendar year. As such, the effects of the lorry drivers' strike were felt on BET's first half profit figures.

Although most of United Transport's business is overseas, the effects of the haulage dispute and the bad weather at the beginning of last year have lopped around £1m from profits.

Interest charges in the period increased from £5m to £8.2m but this was partly offset by a rise in investment income from £2.7m to £3.3m.

Elsewhere BET is showing an improvement. The printing and publishing, and waste disposal divisions increased their contribution while structural steel specialist Boulton & Paul, which

was previously affected by the lorry drivers' strike, showed some recovery.

Looking to the second half, the group is expected to show a small improvement on last year's £72m which could take pre-tax profits to around £75m. However the steel strike could affect some of the subsidiaries, including Boulton & Paul and the plant hire company.

The interim dividend, at 2.66p is the same as last year. But if the final is increased at the same rate as earnings shareholders could receive a final payout of around 8.5p which on yesterday's share price at 112p, down 3p, gives a prospective yield of 9.1 per cent.

Profits from the Rhodesian offshoots, which the group has continued to consolidate, improved in the first half though no breakdown was given of its contribution. In 1978-79 this side turned in £3.5m of the £72m total profit. However, it has liquid capital of almost £9m and net assets of more than £20m.

Following a settlement the group is hoping to be able to use the cash for current dividends.

A below-the-line extraordinary debit of £236,000 results from the cost of the sale of an offshoot of subsidiary Humphries Holdings.

Briefly

Spending cuts knock Gnome Photographic

On sales down from £949,000 to £789,000, pre-tax profits of Gnome Photographic Products fell from £252,000 to £198,000 in the half-year to Nov 30. The board explains that, usually, the first half produces marginally higher profits than the second. However, the public spending cuts are starting to take effect and the board feels it unwise at this time to predict the full year's figures.

EMI—THORN

Thorn Electrical Industries announces that acceptance of its offer have been received to respect of more than 90 per cent of the issued ordinary stock units of EMI. Thorn intends to compulsorily acquire the balance.

HEDGEFIELD—BITING

Hedgefield Country Securities offer for Biting Rubber Estates attracted acceptances for 38.12 per cent of ordinary capital. Hedgefield held 13.03 per cent before offer. Offer unconditional and remains open.

NESCO INVESTMENTS

Nesco Investments (formerly Nigerian Electricity Supply Corp) reports pre-tax profits for half year to Aug 31, £490,000 (£392,000).

PROVINCIAL CITIES TRUST

Gross income for half-year to Nov 30, £91,000 (£89,000). Board expects full-year income to exceed last year.

CANDECCA-CAMBRIAN

Candecca Resources has received acceptances in respect of 68.99 per cent of shares in Cambrian Exploration, comprising 99.81 per cent of the share capital presently in issue. Candecca has declared offer unconditional as to acceptances.

BARR & WALLACE

Barr & Wallace Arnold Trust has bought Gordon Sudworth (Petroleum Supplies) for a sum which does not exceed 5 per cent of Barr's net tangible assets. Sudworth is a marketing distributor for BP Oil Ltd.

WEEKS' SALE

In a £340,000 cash deal, Weeks Associates have sold the Drayton Road, Norwich, freehold premises and land of Hunton International, to Prudential Assurance within a few months of closing the advertising plant there. Proceeds of the sale will substantially reduce the group's bank indebtedness.

Options

Business on the traded options market receded slightly yesterday, along with the remainder of the market. Total contracts fell from the previous day's figure of 1,193 to 955. Business was fairly evenly spread with Imperial Group attracting 153 contracts and the following day's recent spectacular rise along with the gold price, reaching 117 contracts.

Today sees the introduction of several new series of options including the Cone Gold April and July 500p and the Rio 2, February, May and August 390p series.

Reorganization at Philips

Philips Lamps, the Dutch electrical giant, is to reorganize its key factories in the Netherlands at a cost of running into "tens of millions of guilders".

The factories involved, which make up the Elcoma and Glass Divisions, are primarily manufacturers of electronic components, particularly integrated circuits and micro-technology.

The company says the reorganization, which will take several years, is intended to restore loss-making factories to profitability. Jobs should also be protected, although total employment in the factories will fall by about 1,500 over the next three or four years.

Philips faces intense competition from Japanese companies and is determined to stay in business as a major international electronics company. The restructuring is one way of meeting the competition.

Standard, California

A financial officer for Standard Oil of California expects the company's fourth-quarter (1979) profits will show an increase of 70 to 75 per cent on 1978.

Mr Howard W. Bell, the firm's financial vice-president, said earnings a share for the full year of \$10.50 to \$11 would be a "good guess".

Through the first nine months of 1979, the company earned \$1,330m, or \$7.82 a share, on sales of \$22,000m.

Total sales for 1979 were expected to exceed 1978 by 20 per cent to 22 per cent.

Deutsche BP

Deutsche BP, the West German unit of British Petroleum, reports that 1979 net earnings totalled Dm198m, against the Dm250m profit predicted by the company in October, 1979. According to Deutsche BP, profits fell short of expectations because of higher costs.

International

in the form of rising oil prices. However, the company pointed out that the 1979 earnings were more than eight times higher than the 1978 profit of Dm23m.

Generale Occidentale

Attributable net consolidated profit of Generale Occidentale was 76m francs in the six months to end-September, 1979, while the parent company's net profit was 5.17m francs. No comparisons are available because of the change in the dates of the company's financial year. For the previous accounting period of July 1, 1978, to March 31, 1979, the attributable net consolidated profit was 80.34m francs and the parent company's net profit 31.8m francs.—Reuter.

Kitchen Queen AGM

In the absence of Mr Johnson...

In spite of the abrupt departure, less than 24 hours earlier of Mr Neville Johnson, chairman and chief executive, having disposed of 8.5 million shares for £900,000—the first annual general meeting of Kitchen Queen in Manchester, yesterday passed off in 13 minutes with barely a raised eyebrow, let alone a raised voice.

Indeed, but for the presence of Mr Johnson's brother, Joel, there would have been no comment whatever from the floor at the meeting attended by just over 100 shareholders.

Mr Leonard Morris, who has assumed the chairmanship, and, along with his business associate, Mr Jim Bentham, executive management responsibility for the company, made it clear from the outset that he had no intention of going beyond the public statement about Mr Johnson's resignation made the previous day—a decision, which no one present seemed in the least inclined to challenge.

Mr Morris, making his first appearance as chairman of a public company, and apologizing for his lack of experience in the role, said in the past 10 days it had become clear from management information and figures, that during November and December losses were being incurred in the retailing and manufacturing divisions against the optimistic forecasts contained in the chairman's statement.

Mr Johnson's statement in the annual report and accounts was subsequently approved on the nod.

Mr Morris said: "In those circumstances, Mr Johnson felt it was his responsibility to resign."

"In view of the trading situation within the group and in view of the 12 years'

experience in managing companies of similar size, nature and complexity, Mr Bentham and I would have to assume management control."

Mr Morris said in view of this, he and Mr Bentham had acquired from Mr Johnson and his family, 8.5 million shares for a consideration of £900,000 being approximately 10p a share. This meant they now held 28.4 per cent of the issued share capital. "I consider that a very substantial commitment on our behalf", he said.

Mr Morris said he hoped the meeting would appreciate the difficult position he was in and not press questions that he was not in a position to answer. Questions would, therefore, be limited to those which were "proper to an annual general meeting".

He need not have worried. No questions were asked. Indeed when he and Mr Bentham offered themselves for re-election as directors only about a dozen shareholders raised their hands in favour. But since no one voted against the re-election could be declared unanimous.

Equally passively, the meeting approved a dividend of 0.864p per share for the year ending August 31, 1979 to be paid on February 14.

Only when other business was reached did Mr Joel Johnson rise to say that the meeting would be aware that he and his brother had had "frequent and bitter differences of opinion over management and policy matters".

He got no further than this, when Mr Morris stopped him and indicated that he did not think this was the appropriate place to say whatever he was going to say.

Mr Johnson protested, although mildly, that he could not think of any other place for a shareholder, which he was, to say something.

Mr Morris engaged in some close consultation with his fellow directors, and this was interrupted by a shareholder at the front of the room who suggested that the meeting should be closed and that anyone who cared to could remain behind to hear what Mr Johnson had to say.

Mr Morris promptly closed the meeting, and went into a huddle with Mr Johnson, who then took the microphone to address a half-empty room.

It transpired that all he intended to do was to pass on a message from his brother. It was, "Lennie and I have the ability to run this show, and I hope they will get the same support from the management brokers, bankers and the press that I have enjoyed".

Mr Johnson added: "I know Neville better than anyone here and I have no reason at all to doubt the sincerity of those remarks. I think it would be wrong to let this opportunity pass without at least recording some thanks for the 15 years of total dedication and work that he has put into the Kitchen Queen group."

"I know the Lennie and Jim undoubtedly have the ability to take this company to even greater success. I believe they have the will. I think none of us has anything to worry about. That is all I propose to say." It was in fact all anyone proposed to say.

R. W. Shakespeare

Business appointments

Shell UK names four new directors

Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos has been appointed a director of Shell UK. Oil's director of marketing, Mr Owen Heald, Shell UK Oil's director of manufacturing supply and trading, and Mr George Howd, marketing director of Shell Chemicals UK have also been appointed directors.

Mr Peter Faure has been appointed the Independent Broadcasting Authority's head of radio.

Mr C. Alan McLintock has been made vice-chairman of the Westview Equitable Building Society in succession to Mr Arthur D. Chesterfield, who remains on the board.

Mr Chris Smart becomes marketing director and Mr Frank Moore agricultural advisor and director of Howard Kesteven, a director of the Fire Protection Association, has been appointed a director of the Mars Money Systems Division.

Mr David E. Tagg has been appointed personnel and administration director of Watney Mann and Trueman Brothers.

Mr John Puddifoot has been appointed company secretary of Sigma Engineering.

Mr S. Bradshaw-Mack has been made a director of KCA International.

Mr E. A. Crosby has been elected by the board of Crosby Spring Interiors to the new office of president. Mr Ralph Bateman has joined the board.

Mr Regie Vey has joined the board of Gervard Industries. Mr Alan Gill becomes director of manufacturing and Mr John Arthur

will succeed Mr Geoffrey Robinson as managing director from April 1.

Mr J. M. Harper has been appointed managing director-designate of BAJ Vickers. Mr M. A. Brown, the company secretary, and Mr A. C. Johnson, chief engineer, also join the board. Mr R. Entwistle becomes a non-executive director in place of Mr R. V. Jones.

Shareholders have elected Mr F. R. Alexander, managing director of James Richardson & Sons Overseas president of the Grain and Feed Trades Association. Mr J. M. McCann, managing director of Thos Borthwick (Glasgow) will become deputy president. Mr L. J. Wright, director of Pauls & Sanders is now UK vice-president and Mr A. C. Braakenburg, of Pell Nederland BV is European vice-president.

Mr C. D. Woodward who will succeed Mr N. C. Strorther Smith as director of the Fire Protection Association will take up his new duties in September this year when Mr Strother Smith retires.

Mr J. J. Howard is to succeed Mr F. M. Bevis as chief general manager of Royal Insurance. Mr Bevis remains a member of the board.

A former director of Jardine Fleming & Co. Hongkong, the Hon James H. M. Bruce, has been appointed to the board of Robert Fleming.

Walter Lawrence (East Anglia) has appointed Mr Nigel Chambers a director of the company.

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John Foord

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 14. Dealings End, Jan 25. § Contrango Day, Jan 28. Settlement Day, Feb 4

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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Appointments Vacant

BOUGAINVILLE COPPER LIMITED

The Company operates a 98,000 TPD Concentrator on Bougainville Island in Papua New Guinea. The process flow sheet includes crushing, grinding, flotation, thickening, 26km concentrate pipeline, filtering, drying and associated support activities. Available facilities include well equipped metallurgical and mineralogical laboratories, and a comprehensive on-site analytical service.

The Concentrator Division comprises five departments, viz — Crusher, Mill, Metallurgical Services, Engineering Services and Analytical Services.

The Metallurgical Services department provides a routine trouble shooting service to the operating plants, plans and predicts current and future production levels and undertakes development projects to enhance the Company's technical and economic position.

Current development projects include:

- Recovery of gold from tailings
- By-product recovery of molybdenum from concentrate
- Waste dump leaching
- Process control computerisation

BOUGAINVILLE COPPER LIMITED HAS AN INNOVATIVE, TECHNICAL APPROACH AND SEEKS MEN WITH A SIMILAR OUTLOOK.

SENIOR METALLURGISTS

Enthusiastic, experienced Senior Metallurgists are required to co-ordinate and direct the activities of a team of Project Metallurgists, involved in research and development of the Company's Metallurgical operations.

They should hold a Degree or Diploma in Mineral Processing/Technology, Metallurgy, Applied Technology, Chemical Engineering or a related field with at least five years' relevant experience being essential. A minimum of two years' supervisory experience is desirable. They will report to the Chief Metallurgist.

METALLURGISTS

Vacancies exist for metallurgists to participate in the metallurgical research and development of the Company's operations. Successful applicants could expect to be involved in short term shift work as part of their professional development and during pilot plant investigations.

They should hold a Degree or Diploma in Mineral Processing/Technology, Metallurgy, Applied Technology, Chemical Engineering or a related field with two years' relevant experience. Some supervisory experience would be an advantage. They will report to a Senior Metallurgist.

AN ATTRACTIVE SALARY WILL BE NEGOTIATED AND IS SUBJECT TO AN AREA ALLOWANCE OF 30% OF BASE SALARY

Conditions and benefits related to the position will be discussed at interview but would include:

- Permanent or contract (2 years) appointment
- Air fares and removal costs paid to Bougainville on appointment
- Five week's annual leave with return fares to Australia
- Modern housing or single accommodation provided at reasonable cost

The towns of Arawa on the coast, and Panguna at the mine site, are modern with supermarkets, taverns, restaurants, primary schools, private medical and dental services. Sporting facilities include squash and tennis courts, golf course with grass greens, swimming, fishing and sailing. There is a regular air service to Melbourne. Over eight hundred expatriate employees plus families live in the towns.

Applications quoting Reference No. W280 and setting out full details of qualifications and experience should be addressed to:

Mr I L Williams

Conzinc Riotinto of Australia Limited
GPO Box 384D, Melbourne, Vic 3001 Australia.



VACANCY FOR SECRETARY

To the Territorial, Auxiliary and Volunteer Reserve Association for the West Midlands

1. Applications are invited for the Secretaryship of the Territorial, Auxiliary and Volunteer Reserve Association for the West Midlands based at Birmingham and covering the counties of Hereford and Worcester, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire and West Midlands Metropolitan. The post will become vacant on the 16 February 1981 and the successful applicant may be required to understudy the present Secretary for one month before taking over.

2. Applicants should, preferably, have Service Staff experience of at least Grade 1 level (or equivalent) and have reached the age of 45, but not have reached the age of 56, as at 15 February 1981, unless now employed by a Territorial, Auxiliary and Volunteer Reserve Association. The present salary is £9,296 per annum.

3. The appointment is for a probationary period of 18 months in the first instance after which it may be confirmed to the age of 60, with further extensions of one year up to the age of 65, subject to satisfactory annual reports. The successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination and to contribute to the superannuation fund.

4. Application forms may be obtained from the Secretary, West Midland TAVR Association, Tennyson Grange, Tennyson Road, Harborne, Birmingham B32 2HX. Completed forms must reach the Association by 11 March 1980.

5. No testimonials or similar documents should be sent until asked for. All applications received will be acknowledged. Any form of canvassing will lead to immediate disqualification.

Appointment of General Manager

Washington Development Corporation

£17,740-£20,582 per annum

The post of General Manager, Washington Development Corporation, will become vacant on 1st July 1980 on the retirement of the present holder, Mr W. S. Holley, CRE, DL. The salary scale will be £17,740-£20,582. Washington Development Corporation is responsible for the development of Washington New Town, one of the most flourishing growth areas in the North East of England. The general development of the town is nearing completion and the future role of the Corporation will be primarily concerned with industrial and commercial promotion and management. Although the Corporation is due to wind up at the end of 1982 it is currently expected that its industrial role will be extended beyond that date. Clarification is expected shortly. The closing date for applications to be received by the Corporation is 8th February, 1980. Application form and further particulars are available from: Administrative Officer, Washington Development Corporation, Liscard Hall, Stephenson, District 12, WASHINGTON, Tyne and Wear, NE37 3HS. (The advertisement appears with the agreement of the New Towns Staff Committee.)

Washington Development Corporation



GENERAL VACANCIES

BRITISH-RUN COMPANY with novel barges on French canals, weeks holiday and individuals at various points and canals, plus for 1980 season. Please write to Mr Collins or Mr Lester, Corporation, 2, Bennett, Poulton, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1JL. Tel: 0206 7782.

GENERAL VACANCIES

ADMINISTRATOR, buyer for small very busy construction contracts for materials, labour, etc. for a small building contractor. Tel: 01-553 7696.

GENERAL VACANCIES

BOUGHT AND SOLD transfer clerk for 500+ City stockbroker. Tel: 01-553 7696.

On Valentine's Day let The Times make something of your sweet nothings.

On February 14th it's not only what you say, but how you say it that matters. And, when you think about it, a Valentine Card says very little indeed. Could such a missive ever convey the feelings of one whose very being is in the grips of an all-consuming passion? We think not. Worse still, the custom of omitting one's name could lead to some confusion. And, unthinkable though it may be, even lead your sweetheart into the arms of another. Heaven forbid. The answer is to place a message in the Valentine's page of The Times. Don't be shy. You'll be in the company of the country's greatest lovers. But should words fail you, you'll be relieved to know that The Times is right here to support you. Included in our price is a bound, sealed, illustrated volume of poems simply called 'Love'. Tender moments from the lives of Thomas Hardy, Robert Graves, Adrian Henri and many others. And we'll ensure that it reaches your loved one before February 14th with a card that reads 'There's a message for you in The Times on Valentine's Day'. To place a message costs £3.00 per line with a minimum of three lines (count 28 characters including word spaces per line). So be bold. Proclaim your love before the nation. After all, all the world loves a lover.

Send your message together with a cheque (minimum £9) made payable to Times Newspapers Ltd, in Mr John Perry, Department ASA, 4th Floor, The Times, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.

Place your message here (block capitals)

Name of Sender	Address
Telephone	
Name of proposed recipient	Address

THE TIMES

Trinidad & Tobago Ministry of Health Registrar & House Officer

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for appointment to the post of Registrar, Range 62 and House Officer, Range 56G in the Ministry of Health. Particulars relating to the posts are as follows:—

Registrar
Salary Range 62: \$3,274 per month. Applicants must possess:—

- a medical qualification registrable with the General Council in the United Kingdom and with the Medical Council of Trinidad and Tobago;
- an approved higher qualification with three (3) years post graduate experience in the specialty; or
- a total of six (6) years approved post-graduate experience (including pre-registration internship) of which three years must be in the specialty.

House Officer
Salary Range 56G: \$2,662 per month.

Training as evidenced by a recognised medical degree is required and the successful completion of one year's internship at a General Hospital and registration as a Medical Practitioner by the Medical Board of Trinidad and Tobago. Only applications received in response to this advertisement will be considered: persons who have applied previously, and who still wish to be considered for appointment to this post are accordingly advised to re-apply.

Further particulars relating to the post, and application forms are obtainable from Trinidad and Tobago Health Commission, 42 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8NT. Tel: 01-245 9351. Closing date for applications: 2nd February 1980.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

DEPUTY JUDGE ADVOCATE

The Lord Chancellor invites applications for appointment as Deputy Judge Advocate, in the Office of the Judge Advocate General of the Forces, from barristers of England and Wales or Northern Ireland and from members of the faculty of advocates in Scotland; in all cases of not less than 5 years' standing. Applicants must have a sound knowledge of English criminal law and the laws of evidence and experience of practice in the criminal courts. A practical knowledge of service life and traditions and of the procedure of Courts-Martial is desirable. Applicants must be prepared to serve overseas. The salary attached to the appointment is £10,350, rising to a maximum of £13,750, plus £780 Inner London Weighting.

Applications are invited, not later than 7th March, 1980, to the Principal Establishment Officer, Lord Chancellor's Department, Neville House, Page Street, London, SW1P 4LS. Application forms will be provided on request to that address, or by telephone to 01-211 8084.

GENERAL VACANCIES

SALES EXECUTIVE
required by the Egon Ronay Organization (Greencoat House, Francis Street, London, S.W.1)

For a wide range of products including commercial, industrial and domestic goods. Basic grade experience not important. Salary negotiable. Good benefits. Immediate and long-term career development with stability and challenge. Minimum 2 years' experience.

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

University of Durham
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for a

TEMPORARY LECTURESHIP IN PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY

tenable for two years from 1st March 1980. The successful candidate should preferably have experience in the spectroscopic or electrochemical aspects of physical chemistry. The post is part of a research programme in the field of atomic and molecular spectroscopy. Some preference will be given to those with experience in laser spectroscopy. The salary scale is £5,500-£7,500 p.a. plus superannuation. Applications, with three referees, should be sent to the Registrar, University of Durham, Leazes Road, Durham DH1 1TA. From whom further particulars may be obtained.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

TEMPORARY LECTURESHIP IN ATOMIC AND MOLECULAR PHYSICS

Applications are invited for the above post from persons with a Ph.D. and experience in the field of atomic and molecular physics. The post is part of a research programme in the field of atomic and molecular spectroscopy. Some preference will be given to those with experience in laser spectroscopy. The salary scale is £5,500-£7,500 p.a. plus superannuation. Applications, with three referees, should be sent to the Registrar, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL. From whom further particulars may be obtained.

THE UNIVERSITY OF HULL

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Applications are invited for the post of

BARKBY LECTURER IN NEW TESTAMENT STUDIES

Applicants should have sound academic qualifications in Theology or Biblical Studies with a special interest in New Testament Studies. The person appointed will be concerned with the development of a new degree programme in Theology, and with extramural work. The salary scale is £5,500-£7,500 p.a. plus superannuation. Applications, with three referees, should be sent to the Registrar, University of Hull, 68-72, Victoria Road, Hull HU1 1RN. From whom further particulars may be obtained.

University of Newcastle upon Tyne

CHAIR OF FINE ART

Applications are invited for the Chair of Fine Art from candidates who are distinguished artists and who have had practical experience in the practical schools and the academic departments of Fine Art. The appointment is available from 1st October 1980. Salary will be in the professional range.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, 1, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 1JN. From whom applications, with three referees, should be sent, not later than 15th February 1980. (Applicants from outside the British Isles may submit one copy only.)

CITY OF CARLISLE CARLISLE ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

Invites applications for

FINDS ASSISTANT

POST 552
from persons holding a degree in Archaeology and

ILLUSTRATOR

POST 553
from those having a Diploma in Art and Design or holding a suitable academic qualification. Salary range £2,087 to £3,585 depending on qualifications and experience. This is a full-time position. Applications, giving full details, including curriculum vitae, should be sent to the Director, Planning Department, City of Carlisle, Cumberland Castle Road, Carlisle CA3 8QJ, not later than 15th February 1980.

AREZZO, nr Florence, Italy
University required E.F.L. teacher. Tel: 0574 553 224.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

The Middlesex Hospital Medical School

(UNIVERSITY OF LONDON) SCHOOL OF PATHOLOGY

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified cell biologists or experimental pathologists to work on carcinogenesis in the laboratory of Professor R. H. Workman. The work is designed to study the mechanisms of multi-stage carcinogenesis in the laboratory. The successful candidate must have a thorough knowledge of histological and electron microscopic techniques. The appointment is for 2 years, with a salary of £3,500 p.a. plus superannuation. Applications, with curriculum vitae, should be sent to the Registrar, School of Pathology, Middlesex Hospital Medical School, Watney Way, London W1P 7LD, before 15th February 1980.

University of Reading

LECTURESHIP IN ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

Applications are invited for the above post. Candidates should have a Ph.D. and experience in the field of accounting and finance. The salary scale is £5,500-£7,500 p.a. plus superannuation. Applications, with three referees, should be sent to the Registrar, University of Reading, Whiteknights, Reading RG2 2AA. From whom further particulars may be obtained.

STELLA FISHER BUREAU

Admin. assistant. £5,500-£7,500 p.a. W.C.1. Person with experience in the field of recruitment. Tel: 01-553 7696.

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Requires a capable person to manage the membership dept. The work is interesting, the environment is pleasant, the hours are flexible. Tel: 01-553 7696.

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ES. 500-Top Culture Secretary

£5,500-£7,500 p.a. with 10% bonus for the M.D. of fast growing book club. Super modern office in N.W. London. Age 35-35. Tel: 01-553 7696.

KING'S COLLEGE, TUNBRIDGE

Headmaster requires SENIOR SCHOOL SECRETARY for April 1980. The successful candidate should have experience in the field of school administration. The salary scale is £5,500-£7,500 p.a. plus superannuation. Applications, with three referees, should be sent to the Registrar, King's College, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN11 1JL. From whom further particulars may be obtained.

£10,000 plus Appointments

UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

Assistant Secretary
£9,548-£11,853 (£10,142-£12,564-1 April 1980)

The University of Surrey sets out to make the fullest use of its facilities, and generate sources of extra income to contribute to operating costs. We are currently seeking to fill a vacancy that requires responsibility for the university's commercial and certain other trading activities, to supervise a range of the central services, and to operate a committee system including buildings and grounds.

As well as being energetic and enterprising in outlook, applicants must possess commercial, financial, administrative skills, and be capable of managing staff at all levels. Experience of the university world would be a decided advantage. The preferred age range is 30-40.

The successful person would join on a salary starting within the range £9,548-£11,853 per annum (£10,142-£12,564 from 1 April 1980) according to qualifications and experience. Superannuation under USS conditions.

For full particulars of this interesting and demanding post ring 01-253 7222 extension 452 or write to the Deputy Secretary (Personnel), University of Surrey, Guildford GU2 5XH. Applications in the form of a curriculum vitae, including the names and addresses of two referees, should be sent to the above by 28 February 1980. This is a re-advertisement and previous applicants should not re-apply.

MARKETING AND SALES EXECUTIVE

H. E. DANIEL Limited, a subsidiary of the S. & W. BERISFORD Limited Group of Companies is seeking to recruit a Marketing and Sales Executive. The Company, which consists of some 65 people, is situated near Tunbridge Wells in Kent. They manufacture aromatic materials for the perfume, soft drinks and confectionery industries.

The successful candidate, who will report directly to the Joint Managing Director, will be aged between 25 and 45 and be able to demonstrate a proven record in market development and sales growth. As 50% of the Company's products are exported a certain amount of travel will be involved and the ability to speak languages would be an advantage.

The candidate will currently be earning a salary of five figures. His new salary, which is negotiable, should not be below this sum and will include other attractive benefits. This is a most challenging senior appointment, success at which will lead to further promotion.

Applications in writing, enclosing a curriculum vitae to Mr P. R. Dawson, S. & W. Berisford Ltd, 50 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7RJ.

The International Court of Justice

has two vacancies for

SECRETARIES

Qualifications: Thorough knowledge of English and French, and a perfect command of one of those languages, University degree, drafting ability, legal training or experience desirable.

Functions: Translation/revision and interpretation, drafting of minutes and correspondence, legal and administrative duties.

Salary level: United Nations grade P.4.

Applications, accompanied by a detailed C.V. and the names of two referees, should be sent to the Registrar, International Court of Justice, Peace Palace, 2517 NJ The Hague, Netherlands. Closing date for applications: 15 February 1980.

SALES EXECUTIVE

Service Industry Company requires an ambitious Executive, male or female, to manage and develop an existing West End office and to establish new premises in the London area.

The company is currently growing almost 50% annually and is the British subsidiary of an established American company. If you have reached a plateau in your career progression, are 30-40 years of age and have proven success, prospects for unlimited growth are excellent. You should be earning currently £8,000-£10,000 p.a. Please send a detailed c.v. to:

Box No. 0361 F, The Times.

An Accountant to take full responsibility of an Accounts Department

In N.W.1 Area—Salary £10,000 negotiable

Private company requires experienced Financial Accountant, not necessarily qualified, to take complete charge of all accounting functions of the Company and be responsible for accounting and clerical staff.

A mature person would be more welcome, who must be able to work on own initiative. The Company plans to computerise in the near future the present mechanised accounting system. Applications with full details should be addressed to the Company's Auditors:—

Mohan Mediratta & Co.,
21, Buckingham Street,
Strand, London, WC2N 8EF.

COUNCIL FOR THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF HEALTH VISITORS

DIRECTOR

The Council invites applications for the post of Director which will become vacant in August 1980.

Applicants must be qualified Health Visitors with additional teaching and/or educational qualifications and a minimum of 10 years' experience in the field of health visiting. The salary scale is £10,000-£15,000 p.a. plus superannuation. Applications, with three referees, should be sent to the Director, Planning Department, City of Carlisle, Cumberland Castle Road, Carlisle CA3 8QJ, not later than 15th February 1980.

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments also on page 12

SECRETARIAL

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(Staff Consultants)
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STELLA FISHER BUREAU

Admin. assistant. £5,500-£7,500 p.a. W.C.1. Person with experience in the field of recruitment. Tel: 01-553 7696.

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NOTICE

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of the Times Newspaper Limited, which are available on request.

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S.W.1. 01-430 8342.

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At York. 01-424 3741

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SIX 3-A75 M. 01-424 3741

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(continued)

PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davale

TELEVISION

BBC 1

9.05 am For Schools. Colleges: Treffpunkt Deutschland; 9.25 Aht-jete (sports); 9.52 Look and Read; 10.15 Maths-in-a-Box (Strategic); 10.35 Going to Work; 11.00 Hya Fyd (The Fox); 11.25 You and Me: For very young children. I want to Help (r); 11.40 For Schools. Colleges: Every-day Maths; 12.05 pm Your Own Business. Close down at 12.30; 12.45 News and weather.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Ian Lyon praises the holiday possibilities offered by Scarborough, and Peter Seabrook is hard at work in the Pebble Mill garden.

1.45 Mister Men: The story of Mr Chatterbox and Mr Topsy-Turvy (r).

2.02 For Schools. Colleges: Scene (Salvation Army); 2.35 A Good Job with Prospects (British industry). Close down at 3.00; 3.20 Nobel y Cwm: serial in Welsh.

3.55 Play School: Meera Taneja's story A First Day in Delhi.

4.20 The Nibbles: The story of Earthquake McShank (r).

4.35 Jackson: Michael Troughton concludes his readings from Joan Arre's thriller See How They Run.

BBC 2

11.00 am Play School: Same as 11.25 am.

1.25 pm 3.55 pm. Close down at 12.30 am.

5.40 pm Flash Gordon Conquers the Universe: Final episode of this new cinema serial. Doom of the Dictator (r).

6.00 TV Avery Cartoon: Blitz Wolf; 6.10 Monkey: Japanese-made cartoon. Tonight: The defeat of the drought demon.

6.55 Della Smith's Cookery Course: Cheap, and easy, ways to make gingerbread, whole oat crumples, cheese scones and crumpets.

7.30 News: with subtitles for the hard of hearing.

7.30 in the Country: Angela Rippon visits Eric Hosking, perhaps the world's best photographer of birds. Now 70, he left for the Antarctic immediately after making tonight's film—his first visit to that part of the world. Miss Rippon joins Mr Hosking on the mudflats of the Wirral peninsula, watches him at his work and tries her hand at photography (see Personal Choice).

8.00 Call Me Flicka: A portrait of the American opera-singer Frederica von Stade, filmed in France, England and America (see Personal Choice).

9.00 Pot Black 80: Third programme in the new series. John Spencer, three times world champion snooker winner, plays Dennis Taylor, the beaten finalist in the 1975 and 1976 Pot Black competitions. He was beaten by Terry Griffiths in the final of the 1977 World Snooker Championship at Sheffield.

9.25 International Pro-Celebrity Golf: Eric Sykes and Jimmy Tar-

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THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: Bonnet Man (Ecuador forests); 9.57 Star Look Listen; 10.10 Work; 10.27 It's Your Future (pop groups and dustmen); 10.48 Writers' Workshop; 11.10 Reading with Lenny; 11.22 Leapfrog (mathematics); 11.38 Believe it or Not; 11.55 Cartoonzone.

12.00 News Book: The children are encouraged to join in.

12.10 pm Once Upon a Time: Peter Davison tells the story of The Magic Porridge Pot. Puppet show.

12.30 Simply Sewing: How to make your own dresses. Lella Aitken is the expert.

1.00 News: with Peter Sissons. 1.20 Thames News: with Robin Houston.

1.30 Crown Court: The verdict in the case of the two football fans accused of murdering a detective (r).

2.00 After Noon Flux: Mavis Nicholson presents two contrasting stories about refugees—a Vietnamese family now settled in Northern Ireland and a Chilean actor

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ITV

4.50 Tarzan, Lord of the Jungle: cartoon. Tarzan and the Golden Lion; 5.10 Grange Hill: serial about a comprehensive school. Michael Doyle's election success; 5.35 The Persuaders: Short comedy with Leonard Rossiter (r); 5.40 News: with Angela Rippon; 5.55 Nanowide: with Desmond Lynam's Sportswide; 7.00 The superstars: The competing sportsmen move up to Scotland for the final men's heat. They are: Manchester United and Scotland striker Joe Jordan. European boxing champion Alan Miller. Rugby star J. J. Williams, weight-lifter Andy Drzewiecki. Wales's football captain Terry Yorath. Highland Games professional Grant Anderson, badminton international Mike Tredgett, and basketball wizard Steve Assinder.

8.00 My Wife Next Door: Domestic comedy series, with John Alderton, badminton international Mike Tredgett, and basketball wizard Steve Assinder.

8.30 Breakaway: Episode 2 of the new Francis Durbin series. The story of a double murder.

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Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.

6.10 Farming Today.

6.30 Today.

7.00, 8.00 News.

7.30, 8.30 Headlines.

8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.

9.00 News.

9.05 Desert Island Discs.

9.45 Enquire Within.

10.05 From Our Own Correspondent.

10.30 Daily Service.

10.45 Story: Nine of Swords.

11.00 News.

11.05 Disturbing the Universe.

11.30 Bird of the Week.

12.00 News.

12.02 pm You and Yours.

12.27 My Music.

12.55 Weather.

1.00 The World at One.

1.40 The Archers.

2.00 News.

2.02 Woman's Hour.

3.00 News.

3.02 Play: The Devils, by John Whiting.

5.00 PM.

5.55 Weather.

6.30 Going Places.

7.00 News.

7.05 The Archers.

7.20 Bird of the Week.

8.10 Profile.

8.30 Any Questions.

9.15 Letter from America.

9.30 Kaleidoscope.

10.00 The World Tonight.

10.15 Week Ending.

11.00 A Book at Bedtime.

11.15 Financial World Tonight.

11.30 Today in Parliament.

11.45 Play: Nubia.

12.00 News.

12.12 am-12.23 Weather.

Radio 3

6.35 am Weather.

7.00 News.

7.05 Records: Haydn. Mayr. Faure. Howells. Dvorak.

8.00 News.

8.05 Records: Wolf, Finzi, Bach. Delibes.

9.00 News.

9.05 Gluck (Orfen excerpts).

10.00 Spring quartets (Prague).

10.45 In Short: talk.

10.55 Prague Quartet: Dvorak (op 105).

11.30 Soprano, clarinet: Rossini, Brahms, Turina.

12.30 pm BBC Northern SO: Lepard: Holst, Tippett.

1.00 News.

1.05 BBCSO: Shostakovich (Sym 5).

2.05 The Arts Worldwide.

2.25 Records: Croatian music.

3.25 Strides: Vivaldi.

3.55 Comparing Notes.

4.55 News.

5.00 Music for early evening.

7.10 One Pair of Ears: Review.

7.35 Play It Again: preview.

8.35 News.

8.45 Reading (Ralph Richardson): Xmas on a Cellar Book, by George Bernard Shaw.

9.45 CSO: Shostakovich (Pao Conc 11. Supp.).

9.50 Talk: Saints and Sinners.

9.55 Piano (Schiff): Haydn, Mendelssohn, Schumann.

10.25 Tippen on his operas.

10.45 Music from India.

11.55-12.00 News.

Radio 2

5.00 am Regional news, weather.

5.04 Stereo Jones: 7.32 Terry Wogan: 10.04 Jimmy Young: 12.15 pm Waggoners' Walk: 12.30 Pete Murray.

Radio 1

6.00 am As Radio 2 6.00 Dave Lee Travis. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.31 Paul Burnett. 2.00 pm Andy Peebles. 4.31 Kid Jensen. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundabout. 7.30 Anne Nightingale. 9.30 Newsbeat. 10.00 The Friday Rock Show: 12.00-5.00 am As Radio 2.

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.30 Today. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.30, 8.30 Headlines. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00 News. 9.05 Desert Island Discs. 9.45 Enquire Within. 10.05 From Our Own Correspondent. 10.30 Daily Service. 10.45 Story: Nine of Swords. 11.00 News. 11.05 Disturbing the Universe. 11.30 Bird of the Week. 12.00 News. 12.02 pm You and Yours. 12.27 My Music. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.40 The Archers. 2.00 News. 2.02 Woman's Hour. 3.00 News. 3.02 Play: The Devils, by John Whiting. 5.00 PM. 5.55 Weather. 6.30 Going Places. 7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 Bird of the Week. 8.10 Profile. 8.30 Any Questions. 9.15 Letter from America. 9.30 Kaleidoscope. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.15 Week Ending. 11.00 A Book at Bedtime. 11.15 Financial World Tonight. 11.30 Today in Parliament. 11.45 Play: Nubia. 12.00 News. 12.12 am-12.23 Weather.

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Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.30 Today. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.30, 8.30 Headlines. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00 News. 9.05 Desert Island Discs. 9.45 Enquire Within. 10.05 From Our Own Correspondent. 10.30 Daily Service. 10.45 Story: Nine of Swords. 11.00 News. 11.05 Disturbing the Universe. 11.30 Bird of the Week. 12.00 News. 12.02 pm You and Yours. 12.27 My Music. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.40 The Archers. 2.00 News. 2.02 Woman's Hour. 3.00 News. 3.02 Play: The Devils, by John Whiting. 5.00 PM. 5.55 Weather. 6.30 Going Places. 7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 Bird of the Week. 8.10 Profile. 8.30 Any Questions. 9.15 Letter from America. 9.30 Kaleidoscope. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.15 Week Ending. 11.00 A Book at Bedtime. 11.15 Financial World Tonight. 11.30 Today in Parliament. 11.45 Play: Nubia. 12.00 News. 12.12 am-12.23 Weather.

Radio 3

6.35 am Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Records: Haydn. Mayr. Faure. Howells. Dvorak. 8.00 News. 8.05 Records: Wolf, Finzi, Bach. Delibes. 9.00 News. 9.05 Gluck (Orfen excerpts). 10.00 Spring quartets (Prague). 10.45 In Short: talk. 10.55 Prague Quartet: Dvorak (op 105). 11.30 Soprano, clarinet: Rossini, Brahms, Turina. 12.30 pm BBC Northern SO: Lepard: Holst, Tippett. 1.00 News. 1.05 BBCSO: Shostakovich (Sym 5).

Radio 2

5.00 am Regional news, weather. 5.04 Stereo Jones: 7.32 Terry Wogan: 10.04 Jimmy Young: 12.15 pm Waggoners' Walk: 12.30 Pete Murray.

Radio 1

6.00 am As Radio 2 6.00 Dave Lee Travis. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.31 Paul Burnett. 2.00 pm Andy Peebles. 4.31 Kid Jensen. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundabout. 7.30 Anne Nightingale. 9.30 Newsbeat. 10.00 The Friday Rock Show: 12.00-5.00 am As Radio 2.

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.30 Today. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.30, 8.30 Headlines. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00 News. 9.05 Desert Island Discs. 9.45 Enquire Within. 10.05 From Our Own Correspondent. 10.30 Daily Service. 10.45 Story: Nine of Swords. 11.00 News. 11.05 Disturbing the Universe. 11.30 Bird of the Week. 12.00 News. 12.02 pm You and Yours. 12.27 My Music. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.40 The Archers. 2.00 News. 2.02 Woman's Hour. 3.00 News. 3.02 Play: The Devils, by John Whiting. 5.00 PM. 5.55 Weather. 6.30 Going Places. 7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 Bird of the Week. 8.10 Profile. 8.30 Any Questions. 9.15 Letter from America. 9.30 Kaleidoscope. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.15 Week Ending. 11.00 A Book at Bedtime. 11.15 Financial World Tonight. 11.30 Today in Parliament. 11.45 Play: Nubia. 12.00 News. 12.12 am-12.23 Weather.

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Radio 4

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Radio 3

6.35 am Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Records: Haydn. Mayr. Faure. Howells. Dvorak. 8.00 News. 8.05 Records: Wolf, Finzi, Bach. Delibes. 9.00 News. 9.05 Gluck (Orfen excerpts). 10.00 Spring quartets (Prague). 10.45 In Short: talk. 10.55 Prague Quartet: Dvorak (op 105). 11.30 Soprano, clarinet: Rossini, Brahms, Turina. 12.30 pm BBC Northern SO: Lepard: Holst, Tippett. 1.00 News. 1.05 BBCSO: Shostakovich (Sym 5).

Radio 2

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Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.30 Today. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.30, 8.30 Headlines. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00 News. 9.05 Desert Island Discs. 9.45 Enquire Within. 10.05 From Our Own Correspondent. 10.30 Daily Service. 10.45 Story: Nine of Swords. 11.00 News. 11.05 Disturbing the Universe. 11.30 Bird of the Week. 12.00 News. 12.02 pm You and Yours. 12.27 My Music. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.40 The Archers. 2.00 News. 2.02 Woman's Hour. 3.00 News. 3.02 Play: The Devils, by John Whiting. 5.00 PM. 5.55 Weather. 6.30 Going Places. 7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 Bird of the Week. 8.10 Profile. 8.30 Any Questions. 9.15 Letter from America. 9.30 Kaleidoscope. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.15 Week Ending. 11.00 A Book at Bedtime. 11.15 Financial World Tonight. 11.30 Today in Parliament. 11.45 Play: Nubia. 12.00 News. 12.12 am-12.23 Weather.

Radio 3

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Radio 2

5.00 am Regional news, weather. 5.04 Stereo Jones: 7.32 Terry Wogan: 10.04 Jimmy Young: 12.15 pm Waggoners' Walk: 12.30 Pete Murray.

Radio 1

6.00 am As Radio 2 6.00 Dave Lee Travis. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.31 Paul Burnett. 2.00 pm Andy Peebles. 4.31 Kid Jensen. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundabout. 7.30 Anne Nightingale. 9.30 Newsbeat. 10.00 The Friday Rock Show: 12.00-5.00 am As Radio 2.

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.30 Today. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.30, 8.30 Headlines. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00 News. 9.05 Desert Island Discs. 9.45 Enquire Within. 10.05 From Our Own Correspondent. 10.30 Daily Service. 10.45 Story: Nine of Swords. 11.00 News. 11.05 Disturbing the Universe. 11.30 Bird of the Week. 12.00 News. 12.02 pm You and Yours. 12.27 My Music. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.40 The Archers. 2.00 News. 2.02 Woman's Hour. 3.00 News. 3.02 Play: The Devils, by John Whiting. 5.00 PM. 5.55 Weather. 6.30 Going Places. 7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 Bird of the Week. 8.10 Profile. 8.30 Any Questions. 9.15 Letter from America. 9.30 Kaleidoscope. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.15 Week Ending. 11.00 A Book at Bedtime. 11.15 Financial World Tonight. 11.30 Today in Parliament. 11.45 Play: Nubia. 12.00 News. 12.12 am-12.23 Weather.

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Radio 2

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Radio 1

6.00 am As Radio 2 6.00 Dave Lee Travis. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.31 Paul Burnett. 2.00 pm Andy Peebles. 4.31 Kid Jensen. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundabout. 7.30 Anne Nightingale. 9.30 Newsbeat. 10.00 The Friday Rock Show: 12.00-5.00 am As Radio 2.

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.30 Today. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.30, 8.30 Headlines. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00 News. 9.05 Desert Island Discs. 9.45 Enquire Within. 10.0

